



Georgia

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday
April 2,
2019

DAILY REPORT

40th
Legislative
Day

House Budget & Research Office
(404) 656-5050

Today on the Floor

Conference Committee Reports

HB 324 Georgia's Hope Act; enact

Bill Summary: HB 324 is known as the 'Georgia's Hope Act' and allows for the production, manufacturing, and dispensing of low THC oil with a lawful valid license issued by the Low THC Oil License Oversight Board. The bill also creates the Office of Low THC Oil Control within the Department of Public Health ("the department"). The department is granted the authority to promulgate rules and regulations to establish security, quality control, tracking, and oversight of all low THC oil production to ensure market stability and adequate supply. Moreover, the department is prohibited from promulgating rules and regulations that would unduly burden access to low THC oil by registered patients. The Low THC Oil License Oversight Board, comprised of 7 members, is charged with reviewing and approving applications to ensure a competitive process for licenses issued. Members of the oversight board serve without compensation but receive a per diem for each day of attendance at board meetings and serve at the pleasure of the governor, president of the Senate, or speaker of the House in accordance with their manner of appointment.

The department shall issue six private production licenses for two large and four smaller operations and are authorized to: grow cannabis or hemp products in only indoor facilities for producing low THC oil; manufacture low THC oil; a written production plan; a comprehensive security plan which also includes transportation; a detailed employment plan; a written plan for certified organic production; letters of support from local government entities; a demonstration of significant involvement in the business by one or more minority business enterprises; documentation of industry capabilities and experience; and copies of recent criminal background checks for all employees and owners.

HB 324 requires each production licensees to establish, utilize, and maintain a sophisticated tracking system for all phases of production to allow for real-time department access. Moreover, the tracking system must be operated in compliance with the federal 'Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996.'

HB 324 provides that the method of dispensing Low THC oil is through properly licensed and lawful pharmacies.

The bill provides for two university research grow licenses.

No person may enter a safe access retail outlet unless he or she is an employee of the retail outlet, an employee of a licensee, or a registered patient or registered caregiver in possession of a valid registration card.

No licensee shall operate in any location, whether for cultivation, harvesting, and processing marijuana for low THC oil, within a 3,000-foot radius of a school, an early care program, church, synagogue, or other place of public worship in existence prior to the date of licensure by the department. In addition, licensees must comply with strict advertisement requirements which prohibit

advertising that promotes recreational or non-medical use of marijuana. All licensees must provide on-demand access to facilities for inspection by the Georgia Bureau of Investigation or the department.

It is unlawful to ingest low THC oil in a manner that employs a heating element that can be used to produce vapor in solution or through food-like edibles.

Authored By: Rep. Micah Gravley (67th)

Rule Applied: Modified-Structured

Conference Committee Reports: *(Adoption of the conference committee report represents final passage of the bill.)*

SB 72 Game and Fish; hunting on wildlife management areas; prohibition; remove

Bill Summary: SB 72 removes county-specific restrictions on maximum open hunting seasons for opossums and raccoons, subsequently setting a statewide maximum open season of October 15 to February 29 for both animals. An archery extension to the maximum open season concerning deer for specific counties is removed, and the Department of Natural Resources may extend the season for archery by rule to January 31 for any region, county, or locale. The bill sets a maximum deer bag limit of 12, except by rule of the department for deer taken on department-managed lands. The department may exempt a bear taken on department-managed lands from the maximum bag limit.

SB 72 also defines "air gun" as any pistol, handgun, or shoulder-held device of not less than 0.30 caliber that propels a projectile utilizing unignited compressed air or gas. The bill prohibits the use of an air gun, except for hunting big game during primitive weapon hunts, primitive weapon seasons, and firearm seasons. This portion of the bill shall be reviewed by the General Assembly during the 2020 Legislative Session and stand repealed on July 1, 2020 without action from the General Assembly.

The bill allows for the use of feed or bait to lure feral hogs, so long as the feed or bait is not placed in a manner that prohibits the hunting of any species of wildlife on any adjoining property.

Senate Bill 72 removes a restriction on hunting game animals using shotguns with a capacity of more than three shells. The bill further removes language concerning the use of a plug that limits a shotgun's capacity.

Authored By: Sen. Tyler Harper (7th)

Rule Applied: Modified-Open

Conference Committee Reports: *(Adoption of the conference committee report represents final passage of the bill.)*

SB 110 Courts; State-wide Business Court; pursuant to the Constitution of this state; establish

Bill Summary: SB 110 provides the general legislation for the Georgia State-wide Business Court as approved by the constitutional referendum in 2018. The terms of court are the same as the Georgia Supreme Court. Except as otherwise provided under the Georgia Constitution, pretrial proceedings shall be held in Atlanta or Macon-Bibb County, or at the court's sole discretion, via teleconference; all trials shall be held in the county as determined according to traditional venue rules, unless otherwise agreed to by the parties. A judge shall appoint another court judge if there must be a recusal, and if one is not available, the Georgia Supreme Court shall order a sitting judge of the Court of Appeals, superior, or state court to sit by designation in that case.

The court shall not have jurisdiction over cases involving physical, including threats of harm, or emotional injury, matters related to domestic relation, family farming, residential landlord and tenant disputes, or foreclosures, but it will have jurisdiction over equity cases, regardless of the amount in controversy, related to: corporations; small business entities; internal affairs of businesses; sale of goods under the uniform commercial Code; trade secrets; securities; arbitration; licensing of any intellectual property right arising from e-commerce agreements involving commercial real property; and where the state and federal courts have concurrent jurisdiction. When damages are requested, the amount in controversy must be at least \$500,000 unless the dispute is for damages related to commercial real property, and then the amount in controversy must exceed \$1 million.

Cases may come before the court by: a party filing in the court to initiate a civil action that has not already been filed in superior court or state court; a party to an action already in state or superior

court who files a transfer to the court within 60 days of all parties being served, or the case becomes transferable and filed within those 60 days and the judge finds the case within the court's authority and orders, subject to a presumption of remaining in the court of filing, the transfer; or all parties to an action already in a state or superior court agree to remove to the business court and file that agreement within 60 days of commencing the action in state or superior court. The filing fee is \$5,000 to be paid by the party or parties seeking initiation or transfer, or by all parties pro rata where removed by agreement. When a pleading or petition for transfer or removal is filed with the Georgia State-wide Business Court, the date of filing shall be the date of receipt by the court and any applicable statute of limitations shall be tolled until the court accepts or rejects acceptance of the pleading or petition. Upon proof of such transfer or removal the state court or superior court shall certify the transfer or removal.

The court shall initially consist of one judge, one clerk, and one division which shall be appointed and confirmed by December 31, 2019. It will commence operations on January 1, 2020 and begin accepting cases on August 1, 2020; however, the General Assembly may create additional judges, clerks, or divisions based on caseload and need. To qualify as a court judge, the appointee must be for the past seven years a: Georgia resident, U.S. citizen, and admitted to the practice of law in Georgia with at least 15 years of legal experience in complex litigation, preferably in business. Court judges and clerks are appointed by the governor, subject to majority approval of the House and Senate Judiciary committees, serve a five-year term, and may be reappointed at the end of their term so long as the judge remains qualified. An oath of office for the judge is provided. The salary for the judge is \$174,500. The salary for the clerk shall be the same as the clerk of the Court of Appeals. The judge may be reimbursed like other state employees, including expenses for travel, if the judge resides 50 miles or more from the main office in Atlanta.

Subject to Georgia Supreme Court approval, the judge of the court is empowered to create rules governing the business court that shall contain guidelines and procedures for filing documents and pleadings with the Georgia State-wide Business Court, and to that end may empanel a commission of up to eight volunteer individuals to assist. The judge may appoint and remove law assistants, who are either admitted or in the process of being admitted to the bar. The court may also purchase supplies, publications, and employ other staff as needed, and the clerk will pay them based on appropriations by the General Assembly. Appeals shall be made to the Court of Appeals, unless otherwise taken by the Supreme Court. The court is also authorized to grant relief by declaratory judgment. Proceedings shall be filed in the court as other proceedings are filed in superior court, and similarly trial shall not commence earlier than 20 days after services unless otherwise agreed to by the parties. Also, like superior court, the court has contempt authority. Lastly, only non-attorneys may reject electronic service of pleadings.

SB 110 also amends the process by which the state must pay for the cost of any deposition taken at the instance of the state in the course of a criminal proceeding against an accused who is financially unable to employ counsel. Such depositions shall be paid for in the same manner as any other motion hearing, rather than the previous requirement that such depositions be paid for by the Prosecuting Attorney's Council out of funds appropriated for the operations of the district attorneys. Further, depositions shall be taken and filed in the manner provided in civil proceedings or any nonjury motion hearing, as compared to the previous requirement that only allowed for the manner provided in civil proceedings.

Also, mandatory e-filing in state and superior courts for civil actions is amended to not require individuals who are acting on their own behalf to file at a public access terminal. The e-filing requirements are further amended to provide that the Office of the Attorney General, Office of the Secretary of State, Office of Legislative Counsel, district attorneys, and public defenders are not subject to mandatory e-filing fees; nor are filings done on behalf of municipal corporations or county governments. Similarly, leave of absence and conflict notices filed pursuant to the Uniform Rules of the Superior Courts or Uniform State Court Rules are no longer subject to a fee. Additionally, only non-attorneys may reject electronic service of pleadings.

Authored By: Sen. Jesse Stone (23rd)

Rule Applied: Modified-Structured

Conference Committee Reports: *(Adoption of the conference committee report represents final passage of the bill.)*

SB 214 Barbers and Cosmetologists; the number of apprenticeship hours required; change

Bill Summary: SB 214 redefines tattoo artist and tattoo studio as "body artist" and "body art studio". Body artist permits are issued by the Department of Public Health, and the department is authorized to establish reasonable permit fees. Further, the department may deny, suspend, or revoke a body artist permit with appeals conducted in accordance with the 'Georgia Administrative Procedure Act.' The bill requires body art studios to conspicuously display a warning that any body art can disqualify an individual from military service.

The bill refines and updates the Code regarding electrical contractors to allow for continuing education classes, within and outside the state, that meet requirements of the Division of Electrical Contractors. Moreover, the programs must self-sustaining by individual fees set and collected by the provider of the program. In addition, persons not licensed or who do not have a certificate of competency issued by the division are prohibited from advertising in any manner that he or she is in the business or profession of electrical contracting or plumbing unless the work is performed by a licensed electrical contractor or plumber.

SB 214 also removes outdated language in the Code regarding the Georgia State Board of Cosmetology and Barbers and allows for testing of apprentices to begin testing at twelve months of beginning an apprenticeship.

Authored By: Sen. P. K. Martin (9th)

Rule Applied: Modified-Open

Conference Committee Reports: *(Adoption of the conference committee report represents final passage of the bill.)*

Motions to Insist**SB 200 Georgia Department of Transportation; procedure for appealing the rejection of a contract bid; require**

Bill Summary: Senate Bill 200 requires the Department of Transportation (GDOT) to establish a procedure to appeal the rejection of any bid for contracts the department is authorized to enter into by rule and regulation.

The sunset provision on the sales tax exemption on jet fuel is extended to June 30, 2039. The bill establishes an excise tax of \$.005 per gallon on jet fuel.

The bill allows for single county transit SPLOSTs for counties outside of the non-attainment area and provides procedures for project selection, mobility zone council approval, and ballot questions.

For-hire ground transport providers are exempt from sales and use tax and are subject to an excise tax. For-hire ground transport trips will have an excise fee of \$.50 and shared trips will have an excise fee of \$.25. These fees are required to be appropriated exclusively for transit and transit projects. If the amount collected is ever not appropriated for a fiscal year, the amount collected is reduced by half. In the second fiscal year in which the amount collected is not appropriated, the fee ceases to be collected.

The legislation creates the Department of Mobility and Innovation to govern and coordinate transit services across the state. This governance structure employs the establishment of mobility zones and mobility managers. The department assumes the functions related to the administration, implementation, or coordination of transit services and all federal and state funding related to those functions that are currently assigned to the departments of Transportation, Human Services, Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities, and Community Health. This transfer of functions includes vacant positions and persons employed by these departments.

The Georgia Regional Transportation Authority is abolished, and the employees of the authority are transferred to the Atlanta-region Transit Link (ATL) Authority in 2020. The State Road and Tollway Authority (SRTA) will continue to perform the same functions and remains administratively attached to GDOT; however, the executive director of SRTA will also be the commissioner of the Department of Mobility and Innovation. The bill allows for the continuation of shared staff and services among SRTA and the ATL, which is administratively attached to the department.

SB 200 establishes within the Department of Mobility and Innovation a Transit Link Division and a Transit Coordinating Council. The Transit Link Division is responsible for the development of programs and the provision of services and funds in coordination with public and private entities to ensure cost effective and efficient delivery of transit for the: indigent, aged; disabled; unemployed; or the infirmed. The Transit Coordinating Council acts as an advisory council to the Transit Link Division regarding the implementation of programs and provision of transit to the indigent, the aged, persons with disabilities, the unemployed, or the ill. Composed of the commissioner and the commissioners of transportation, human services, behavioral health and developmental disabilities, and community health or their respective designees. The commissioner of Mobility or his or her designee will serve as the chairperson.

Service areas are established as mobility zones. These zones function as the regional planning entity for transit in each designated mobility zone of the state. There are nine zones established. Each has a mobility zone council to approve regional transit plans with zone 9 being the ATL region with the ATL board serving as the council for this zone. The remaining eight councils are chosen from membership of regional commission by the chairpersons of the regional commissions in a mobility zone.

There are three pilot programs established by the legislation. They include a voucher program for the use of transit the use of transit to the unemployed and underemployed. The Department of Mobility may work with Department of Labor to get good data and determine applicant eligibility. These vouchers would be made available only to applicants living in a county with an unemployment rate at 125% or greater than the state's average or a per capita income of less than 75% of the state's average. Required reporting for each of the three years to the Governor, Speaker, and Lieutenant Governor on implementation and effectiveness with the final report to include recommendations for expansion of the pilot statewide is included.

The second pilot is a tax incentive program. Tax credits for employers who provide a transit benefit program to potential employees in order to use transit to travel to and from work. Mobility zone managers work with employers interested in using transit benefit as a recruitment tool. This is limited to one mobility zone and the incentive is a credit of \$100 per month per new employee hired and enrolled in the program, capped at \$1 million annually. The program requires quarterly reports submitted to the Transit Link Division to detail implementation and effectiveness of the program.

The final pilot is for micro-transit. Micro-transit is a technology enabled, on-demand transit service with flexible routing and scheduling of multi-passenger vehicles. Subject to the appropriation of funds by the legislature, the Department of Mobility and Innovation will conduct a pilot program for the award of up to three grants to private businesses for the provision of micro-transit within the ATL jurisdiction. The maximum award is limited to \$500,000.00 and a maximum of one grant per authority district. It is up to the department to develop an application and standards for awarding grants. Consideration of applications should include whether the applicant's proposal will connect two or more existing transit systems within the ATL, provide connectivity between an existing provider and an area within the ATL without transit, or provide access to economic activity centers such as employment sites or education or training facilities to low income or underserved residents.

The bill also provides for the extension of the sunset for the creation Cobb County Special District for Transit so that the county has until 2021 to submit a proposed map of the district and a proposed rapid transit contact, and hold a referendum for approval.

Authored By: Sen. Steve Gooch (51st)

Rule Applied: Modified-Structured

Motions to Insist: *(A motion to insist sends the bill back to the Senate for consideration.)*

Motions to Recede

HB 99 Insurance; provide for modernization and updates

Bill Summary: House Bill 99 updates and modernizes Title 33, relating to insurance, by removing repetitive language, expired deadlines, and expired sections. Additionally, this bill provides

provisions for captive insurance companies.

Authored By: Rep. Richard Smith (134th) **Rule Applied:** Modified-Structured
Motions to Recede: *(A motion to recede represents final passage of the bill.)*

Motions to Agree

HB 25 Contracts; provide military service members civil relief concerning certain contractual obligations due to circumstances of active duty

Bill Summary: HB 25 allows service members, meaning active duty members of the U.S. armed forces, Georgia National Guard, or Georgia Air National Guard, to terminate a contract with a provider of television, video, and audio programming services; internet access services; or health spa or gym services when such service member is ordered to relocate to a location that does not support the contract from that provider for a period of at least 90 days. The notice of termination shall be effective on the date stated in the notice provided it is accompanied by either a copy of the official military orders or a written verification signed by the service member's commanding officer indicating the relocation. Additionally, the Code's reference to the 'Servicemembers Civil Relief Act' regarding self-service storage facilities is updated to reflect current federal numeration.

Authored By: Rep. D. C. Belton (112th) **Rule Applied:** Modified-Open
Motions to Agree: *(A motion to agree represents final passage of the bill.)*

HB 39 Physical Therapy Licensure Compact Act; enter into an interstate compact

Bill Summary: House Bill 39 enters the state of Georgia into the 'Physical Therapy Licensure Compact Act'. It authorizes the State Board of Physical Therapy to administer the compact for the state. The bill is designed to increase public access to physical therapy services by providing for the mutual recognition of other member state licenses. It also gives the board the power to conduct criminal history record checks as determined by the board through the Georgia Crime Information Center and Federal Bureau of Investigation for the purpose of issuing licenses.

Compact state members create a joint public agency known as the "Physical Therapy Compact Commission," which shall have the power to promulgate uniform rules to facilitate and coordinate implementation and administration of this compact. The commission has the power to purchase and maintain insurance and bonds, hire employees, borrow money, and perform other necessary functions. Each member state's licensing board shall select one delegate to be a member of the commission. The delegate must be a member of the licensing board, in addition to being a physical therapist, a physical therapist assistant, public member, or the board administrator.

The commission may levy and collect an annual assessment from each member state or impose fees on other parties to cover the cost of operations of the commission and staff. The aggregate annual assessment amount shall be allocated by formula to be determined by the commission. The commission shall not incur any obligations until securing adequate funds, nor shall the commission pledge the credit of any member state.

Authored By: Rep. D. C. Belton (112th) **Rule Applied:** Modified-Structured
Motions to Agree: *(A motion to agree represents final passage of the bill.)*

HB 68 Education; prohibit certain entities from being student scholarship organizations

Bill Summary: House Bill 68 amends O.C.G.A. 20-2A-2.1 by limiting the type of entity which can be a student scholarship organization. No entity which provides accreditation of elementary or secondary schools or is affiliated with an accreditation entity is eligible to be a student scholarship organization under this Code section.

Authored By: Rep. John Carson (46th) **Rule Applied:** Modified-Structured
Motions to Agree: *(A motion to agree represents final passage of the bill.)*

HB 70 Guardian and ward; guardian and conservators of minors and adults; revise provisions

Bill Summary: HB 70 updates and revises provisions relating to guardians and conservators of minors and adults. Moreover, the bill allows a guardian to pay security bonds and bond premiums from the estate from the minor. Conservators are allowed access to digital assets of the minor to perform acts for the benefit of the minor. With respect to a guardianship order from another state that is properly registered and recorded with Georgia, courts from this state are authorized to communicate with the appointing court to share any action relating to a bond of the guardian. Regarding a foreign conservator, HB 70 allows the court to communicate with the appointing court to inform that court of any proceedings relating to the conservatorship in Georgia and compel a foreign conservator to protect an interest. In any proceeding for the appointment of a guardian or conservator pursuant to Code, the costs and expenses of the proceedings are listed for the court to consider. Additionally, HB 70 recognizes the 'Uniform Enforcement of Foreign Judgements Act.'

Authored By: Rep. Chuck Efstation (104th) **Rule Applied:** Modified-Structured
Motions to Agree: *(A motion to agree represents final passage of the bill.)*

HB 79 Blind persons; child custody matters; provisions

Bill Summary: HB 79 prevents courts, the Department of Human Services, and any child-placing agency from denying child placement, custody, visitation, guardianship, or adoption to a party because the party is blind. Further, the bill mandates that the Department of Human Services promulgate rules and regulations implementing this Code section by December 31, 2019.

Authored By: Rep. Carl Gilliard (162nd) **Rule Applied:** Modified-Structured
Motions to Agree: *(A motion to agree represents final passage of the bill.)*

HB 99 Insurance; provide for modernization and updates

Bill Summary: House Bill 99 updates and modernizes Title 33, relating to insurance, by removing repetitive language, expired deadlines, and expired sections. Additionally, this bill provides provisions for captive insurance companies.

Authored By: Rep. Richard Smith (134th) **Rule Applied:** Modified-Structured
Motions to Agree: *(A motion to agree represents final passage of the bill.)*

HB 118 Crimes and offenses; transmitting a false alarm; revise offense

Bill Summary: House Bill 118 replaces the offense of "transmitting a false public alarm" with the offense of "making an unlawful request for emergency services assistance." A person commits this offense when he/she knowingly and intentionally transmits in any manner a request for emergency services assistance when there is no reasonable ground for believing the information which forms the basis of the request. It is also an offense when the request involves or relates to: a purported destructive device or hazardous substance located in a place where the detonation or release would endanger human life, cause injury or damage to property; an individual who has purportedly caused or threatened physical harm to themselves or another person by using a deadly weapon or any instrument that is likely to result in serious bodily injury; an individual who has purportedly committed a criminal act involving the use or threat of physical force or violence or an act constituting an immediate threat to any person's life or safety; or the use of any electronic device or software to alter or conceal or attempt to alter or conceal the requestor's identity.

The bill establishes felony guilt for an unlawful request which results in serious bodily harm or death from the response of a public safety agency and a minimum sentence upon conviction of imprisonment for one but not more than 10 years and a minimum fine of \$5,000.

Authored By: Rep. Marc Morris (26th) **Rule Applied:** Modified-Open
Motions to Agree: *(A motion to agree represents final passage of the bill.)*

HB 166 Genetic Counselors Act; enact

Bill Summary: House Bill 166 establishes the 'Genetic Counselors Act.' Effective January 1, 2020, a person will not engage in the practice of genetic counseling in this state without a valid license issued by the Georgia Composite Medical Board.

Authored By: Rep. Deborah Silcox (52nd) **Rule Applied:** Modified-Structured
Motions to Agree: *(A motion to agree represents final passage of the bill.)*

HB 220 Solid waste management; certain solid waste disposal surcharges; extend sunset date

Bill Summary: House Bill 220 changes sunset dates, effective dates, and fees related to the Solid Waste Trust Fund and Hazardous Waste Trust Fund.

The sunset date for tire disposal fees related to the Solid Waste Trust Fund is changed to June 30, 2022. Effective July 1, 2020, the replacement tire fee is decreased from \$1 to \$0.38.

The sunset date for the collection of surcharges per ton of solid waste and the fees collected for hazardous waste management related to the Hazardous Waste Trust Fund is changed to July 1, 2022. Effective July 1, 2020, the per ton surcharge on solid waste disposal is changed from \$0.75 per ton to \$0.51 per ton.

Authored By: Rep. Terry Rogers (10th) **Rule Applied:** Modified-Structured
Motions to Agree: *(A motion to agree represents final passage of the bill.)*

HB 224 Income tax; credit for new purchases and acquisitions of qualified investment property shall be earnable for mining and mining facilities and allowed against a taxpayer's payroll withholding; provide

Bill Summary: House Bill 224 amends the Historic Rehabilitation Tax Credit, Investment Tax Credit, and Quality Jobs Tax Credit.

The Historic Rehabilitation Tax Credit is amended to allow the credit to be claimed in the year that the rehabilitation is placed in service, which may be up to two years after the year the credit was originally reserved.

The Investment Tax Credit is amended by increasing the minimum investment from \$50,000 to \$100,000 for all tiers. For Tier One and Tier Two counties, credits earned on or after January 1, 2020 must first be applied to at least 50 percent of the taxpayer's state income tax liability before up to \$1 million per year of excess credits may be taken as a credit against payroll withholdings. Unused credits claimed prior to January 1, 2020 shall be treated the same as new credits and allowed to be used against withholdings if: in Tier One counties, the taxpayer maintains at least 100 jobs in rural counties and purchases or acquires at least \$5 million of qualified investment property in rural counties; and in Tier Two counties, the taxpayer maintains at least 100 jobs in rural counties and purchases or acquires at least \$10 million of qualified investment property in rural counties. Rural counties are defined as a counties having a population of 50,000 or less and 10 percent or more of the population living in poverty. A statewide annual cap of \$10 million in aggregate for all taxpayers in the state is established for credits being used against payroll withholdings.

The job creation threshold for the Quality Jobs Tax Credit is also revised. For counties designated as Tier One by the commissioner of the Department of Community Affairs with a population of less than 50,000 and a poverty rate of greater than 10 percent, at least 10 new quality jobs must be created within one year. Counties designated as Tier Two by the commissioner of the Department of Community Affairs, with a population of less than 50,000 and a poverty rate of greater than 10 percent, must create at least 25 new quality jobs within one year. For all other counties in the state, the threshold remains 50 new quality jobs within two years.

Authored By: Rep. Bruce Williamson (115th) **Rule Applied:** Structured
Motions to Agree: *(A motion to agree represents final passage of the bill.)*

HB 228 Marriage; change minimum age from 16 to 17 and require any person who is 17 to have been emancipated

Bill Summary: HB 228 raises the minimum age of marriage to 17 and requires any person who is 17 and seeking a marriage license to provide documentary proof of emancipation by law. The older party to the marriage shall not be more than four years older than the younger party to the marriage. HB 228 requires both parties of such a marriage to present a certificate of completion of premarital education, which must include six hours of instruction involving marital issues and be conducted by a professional counselor, social worker, marriage and family therapist, psychologist, psychiatrist, or clergy whom are properly licensed.

HB 228 makes changes to the Code regarding emancipation if the purpose is to marry. The court must appoint an attorney for the minor and must inquire into whether the intended marriage is in the minor's best interest or puts the minor at risk. The minor must provide information about the intended spouse, including copies of criminal records or protective orders. HB 228 requires a waiting period of 15 days after the emancipation of the minor before the court can issue a marriage license.

Authored By: Rep. Andrew Welch (110th) **Rule Applied:** Modified-Structured
Motions to Agree: *(A motion to agree represents final passage of the bill.)*

HB 233 Pharmacy Anti-Steering and Transparency Act; enact

Bill Summary: House Bill 233 enacts the 'Pharmacy Anti-Steering and Transparency Act'. This act, effective January 1, 2020, restricts a pharmacy licensed in or holding a non-resident pharmacy permit in Georgia from transferring or sharing records relative to prescription information containing patient and prescriber identifiable data to or from an affiliate for any commercial purpose.

House Bill 233 further restricts these pharmacies from presenting a claim for payment to any individual, third-party payer, affiliate, or other entity for a service furnished pursuant to a referral from an affiliate. Pharmacies licensed or holding a nonresident pharmacy permit in Georgia are required to annually file with the Board of Pharmacy a disclosure statement identifying all such affiliates.

Authored By: Rep. David Knight (130th) **Rule Applied:** Modified-Structured
Motions to Agree: *(A motion to agree represents final passage of the bill.)*

HB 239 Georgia Business Court; establish

Bill Summary: HB 239 provides the general legislation for the Georgia State-wide Business Court as approved by the constitutional referendum in 2018. The terms of court are the same as the Georgia Supreme Court. Except as otherwise provided under the Georgia Constitution, pretrial proceedings shall be held in Atlanta or Macon-Bibb County, or at the court's sole discretion, via teleconference; all trials shall be held in the county as determined according to traditional venue rules, unless otherwise agreed to by the parties. A judge shall appoint another court judge if there must be a recusal, and if one is not available, the Georgia Supreme Court shall order a sitting judge of the Court of Appeals, superior, or state court to sit by designation in that case.

The court shall not have jurisdiction over cases involving physical, including threats of harm, or emotional injury, matters related to domestic relation, family farming, residential landlord and tenant disputes, or foreclosures, but it will have jurisdiction over equity cases, regardless of the amount in controversy, related to: corporations; small business entities; internal affairs of businesses; sale of goods under the uniform commercial Code; trade secrets; securities; arbitration; licensing of any intellectual property right arising from e-commerce agreements involving commercial real property; and where the state and federal courts have concurrent jurisdiction. When damages are requested, the amount in controversy must be at least \$500,000 unless the dispute is for damages related to commercial real property, and then the amount in controversy must exceed \$1 million.

Cases may come before the court by: a party filing in the court to initiate a civil action that has not already been filed in superior court or state court, unless a party objects within 30 days of the initial

filing and seeks a transfer to a state or superior court of proper venue; a party to an action already in state or superior court who files a transfer to the court within 60 days of all parties being served, or the case becomes transferable and filed within those 60 days and the judge finds the case within the court's authority and orders, subject to a presumption of remaining in the court of filing, the transfer, unless a party objects within 30 days of the petition for transfer; or all parties to an action already in a state or superior court agree to remove to the business court and file that agreement within 60 days of commencing the action in state or superior court. The filing fee is \$5,000 to be paid by the party or parties seeking initiation or transfer, or by all parties pro rata where removed by agreement. When a pleading or petition for transfer or removal is filed with the Georgia State-wide Business Court, the date of filing shall be the date of receipt by the court and any applicable statute of limitations shall be tolled until the court accepts or rejects acceptance of the pleading or petition. Upon proof of such transfer or removal the state court or superior court shall certify the transfer or removal.

The court shall initially consist of one judge, one clerk, and one division which shall be appointed and confirmed by December 31, 2019. It will commence operations on January 1, 2020 and begin accepting cases on August 1, 2020; however, the General Assembly may create additional judges, clerks, or divisions based on caseload and need. To qualify as a court judge, the appointee must be for the past seven years a: Georgia resident, U.S. citizen, and admitted to the practice of law in Georgia with at least 15 years of legal experience in complex litigation, preferably in business. Court judges and clerks are appointed by the governor, subject to majority approval of the House and Senate Judiciary committees, serve a five-year term, and may be reappointed at the end of their term so long as the judge remains qualified. An oath of office for the judge is provided. The salary for the judge is \$174,500. The salary for the clerk shall be the same as the clerk of the Court of Appeals. The judge may be reimbursed like other state employees, including expenses for travel, if the judge resides 50 miles or more from the main office in Atlanta.

Subject to Georgia Supreme Court approval, the judge of the court is empowered to create rules governing the business court that shall contain guidelines and procedures for filing documents and pleadings with the Georgia State-wide Business Court, and to that end may empanel a commission of up to eight volunteer individuals to assist. The judge may appoint and remove law assistants, who are either admitted or in the process of being admitted to the bar. The court may also purchase supplies, publications, and employ other staff as needed, and the clerk will pay them based on appropriations by the General Assembly. Appeals shall be made to the Court of Appeals, unless otherwise taken by the Supreme Court. The court is also authorized to grant relief by declaratory judgment. Proceedings shall be filed in the court as other proceedings are filed in superior court, and similarly trial shall not commence earlier than 20 days after services unless otherwise agreed to by the parties. Also, like superior court, the court has contempt authority. Lastly, only non-attorneys may reject electronic service of pleadings.

HB 239 also amends the process by which the state must pay for the cost of any deposition taken at the instance of the state in the course of a criminal proceeding against an accused who is financially unable to employ counsel. Such depositions shall be paid for in the same manner as any other motion hearing, rather than the previous requirement that such depositions be paid for by the Prosecuting Attorney's Council out of funds appropriated for the operations of the district attorneys. Further, depositions shall be taken and filed in the manner provided in civil proceedings or any nonjury motion hearing, as compared to the previous requirement that only allowed for the manner provided in civil proceedings.

Also, mandatory e-filing in state and superior courts for civil actions is amended to not require individuals who are acting on their own behalf to file at a public access terminal. The e-filing requirements are further amended to provide that the Office of the Attorney General, Office of the Secretary of State, Office of Legislative Counsel, district attorneys, and public defenders are not subject to mandatory e-filing fees; nor are filings done on behalf of municipal corporations or county governments. Similarly, leave of absence and conflict notices filed pursuant to the Uniform Rules of the Superior Courts or Uniform State Court Rules are no longer subject to a fee. Additionally, only non-attorneys may reject electronic service of pleadings.

Authored By: Rep. Chuck Efstoration (104th) **Rule Applied:** Modified-Open
Motions to Agree: (*A motion to agree represents final passage of the bill.*)

HB 242 Professions and businesses; regulation of massage therapy educational programs; provide

Bill Summary: HB 242 establishes board certification of massage therapy educational programs, within and outside the state, which meet the standards for training and curriculum set by the rules of the Georgia Board of Massage Therapy. The bill allows the board to request on-site inspections of massage therapy businesses and requires these businesses to continuously maintain liability insurance coverage for bodily injuries and property damages. Further, massage therapy businesses must comply with appropriate advertising. The bill increases fines for non-compliance and unlawful acts. HB 242 also provides rules and limitations for local jurisdictions in regulating massage therapy businesses.

Authored By: Rep. Lee Hawkins (27th) **Rule Applied:** Modified-Structured
Motions to Agree: *(A motion to agree represents final passage of the bill.)*

HB 277 Insurance; allow good will from insurer acquisitions to be treated as an asset

Bill Summary: House Bill 277 allows "good will" from insurer acquisitions to be treated as an asset. This includes "good will" up to 10 percent of the acquiring insurer's capital and surplus shown on its statutory balance sheet for the most recently filed statement with the Insurance commissioner adjusted to exclude any net positive good will, electronic data processing equipment, operating system software, and net deferred tax asset.

Authored By: Rep. John Carson (46th) **Rule Applied:** Modified-Structured
Motions to Agree: *(A motion to agree represents final passage of the bill.)*

HB 279 Revenue and taxation; certain law enforcement officers may use department vehicles relative to certain approved off-duty jobs; provide

Bill Summary: House Bill 279 allows certified law enforcement officers appointed by the commissioner of the Department of Revenue as a special agent or enforcement officer of the department to use a department motor vehicle while working an off-duty job if that job requires vested police powers as a condition of employment. These jobs must have prior approval of the commissioner and must be determined by the commissioner to be in the furtherance of the department's mission and service to the state.

Authored By: Rep. Eddie Lumsden (12th) **Rule Applied:** Modified-Structured
Motions to Agree: *(A motion to agree represents final passage of the bill.)*

HB 282 Criminal procedure; increase amount of time that law enforcement agencies are required to preserve certain evidence of sexual assault

Bill Summary: HB 282 requires law enforcement agencies to maintain physical evidence collected that relates to the identity of the perpetrator of an alleged sexual assault for 30 years from the date of arrest, or seven years from the completion of the sentence; if there is no arrest, evidence must be maintained for 50 years.

Authored By: Rep. Scott Holcomb (81st) **Rule Applied:** Modified-Structured
Motions to Agree: *(A motion to agree represents final passage of the bill.)*

HB 307 Abandoned Motor Vehicle Act; enact

Bill Summary: House Bill 307 creates the 'Abandoned Motor Vehicle Act.' The intent of the General Assembly is to decrease the burden on businesses that remove abandoned vehicles at the request of law enforcement officers or private property owners.

When an insurance company acquires a motor vehicle after paying out a total loss claim but does not receive, within 30 days, the certificate of title from the vehicle owner, the insurance company, or a salvage dealer, is authorized to apply to the Department of Revenue to receive a replacement certificate of title.

Several Code sections relating to abandoned and derelict vehicles are repealed and reserved.

When a peace officer, or authorized entity, discovers an unattended vehicle on a highway or public property, they must immediately perform an unattended vehicle check. Once the check is complete, the officer, or authorized entity, must attach a completed unattended vehicle check card to the vehicle. The Department of Public Safety will specify the rules and regulations regarding the unattended vehicle check cards and will provide them to law enforcement agencies free of charge if possible. These cards must only be attached to a vehicle by a peace officer or an authorized entity. Within 24 hours of completing or discovering the completion of an unattended vehicle check, the peace officer must check the criminal justice information system to determine if the vehicle is stolen. If the vehicle is stolen, the peace officer must notify the law enforcement agency which filed the stolen vehicle report.

If a vehicle has been left unattended on a highway for more than five days or if the vehicle's abandonment poses an immediate threat to public safety or traffic congestion, a peace officer can have the vehicle removed to a safer place. Within three days of the removal, the towing company which tows the vehicle at the request of the peace officer may request from the Department of Revenue the identification of the vehicle owner. The department has five days to provide the requested information and may charge a fee of \$2 or less.

Within three days of the removal of an unattended vehicle from private property, the towing company which tows the vehicle at the request of the property owner may request from the Department of Revenue the identification of the vehicle owner. The department has five days to provide the requested information and may charge a fee of \$2 or less. After no more than one day, the towing company must submit a copy of the Department of Revenue request to the law enforcement department with jurisdiction over the location that the vehicle was abandoned. Within 24 hours, the local law enforcement department must check the criminal justice information system to determine if the vehicle has been reported as stolen. If the vehicle is stolen, the law enforcement officer must contact the law enforcement agency which filed the stolen vehicle report, who will in turn notify the vehicle owner and the towing company. If a repair facility or salvage dealer has been in possession of a vehicle for at least 15 days with no contact from the owner or insurance company, they may request from the Department of Revenue the identification of the vehicle owner. The department has five days to provide the requested information and may charge a fee of \$2 or less.

It is prohibited to remove or tow a vehicle left in a paid private parking lot between midnight and 9 a.m. of the following day; the parking lot owner can impose a penalty of \$25 or less and is not liable for any damage to the abandoned vehicle.

A towing company, repair facility, or salvage dealer must give the vehicle owner up to 30 days after notice is sent to retrieve any personal property from the vehicle. After 30 days, any remaining personal property will be considered abandoned.

Within 15 calendar days of removal, the towing company or salvage dealer must send the owners the notification letter form developed by the Council of Magistrate Court Judges to give notice of the vehicle's location and fees owed. If the identity of the owners cannot be found, the towing company or salvage dealer must place a notice in the local newspaper or the county courthouse for two consecutive weeks. When a vehicle is left with a repair facility for at least 15 days without payment, the repair facility must send the owner the applicable notification letter form developed by the Council of Magistrate Court Judges to give notice of the vehicle's location and fees owed. The towing company, salvage dealer, or repair facility shall have a lien placed on motor vehicles in their possession in the amount of the noticed recoverable fees.

Between 10 days and six months after compliance with the notice requirements, a towing company, repair facility, or salvage dealer may file an action for a petition to foreclose a lien against the motor vehicle in any magistrate court in the judicial circuit where the vehicle is located. The towing company, repair facility, or salvage dealer must send a copy of the filed claim to any known owners of the vehicle. If the identity of the owners cannot be found, the towing company, repair facility, or salvage dealer must advertise the notice in the local newspaper or the county courthouse for two consecutive weeks. The vehicle owner may file an answer to the claim within 10 days of receipt by

using the included answer form. If no answer is filed within the specified time frame, the towing company, repair facility, or salvage dealer may seek to foreclose the lien through a judgment. If the judgement is granted by the court, the vehicle will be considered abandoned and within five days the court must transmit an order for the disposition of the motor vehicle. If an answer is returned to the court, a trial deciding whether to foreclose on the lien will be held within 10 days.

After a court order, the towing company, repair facility, or salvage dealer is authorized to sell the vehicle to the highest bidder at public sale. The towing company, repair facility, or salvage dealer will use the proceeds from the sale to satisfy the outstanding lien and cover any costs associated with the advertisement and sale of the vehicle. The remaining proceeds will be submitted to the Department of Revenue as unclaimed property.

The purchaser of a motor vehicle at such a public sale will receive a certified copy of the court order authorizing the sale. The purchaser will be able to obtain a clear title from the Department of Revenue by meeting specified requirements.

Once the vehicle proceeds have been turned over to the Department of Revenue as unclaimed property, any person claiming a property interest in the motor vehicle sold and the excess funds from the sale must make a claim within six months of the sale. If no claim is made within six months, the person who sold the motor vehicle can make a claim for the excess funds until one year from the date of the deposit of excess funds.

Authored By: Rep. Alan Powell (32nd)

Rule Applied: Modified-Structured

Motions to Agree: *(A motion to agree represents final passage of the bill.)*

HB 311 State government; waiver of sovereign immunity as to actions ex contractu and state tort claims; provisions

Bill Summary: House Bill 311 provides a limited waiver of sovereign immunity for declaratory and injunctive relief against the state in Part I and against all other political subdivisions in Part II, including counties and municipalities. Part III addresses the limited waiver for quiet title claims, which is the process used to clear any uncertainty on the plaintiff's title to property, against the state or its political subdivisions. Part IV addresses judgments and rulings deemed directly appealable with regard to sovereign immunity.

The waiver in Part I is limited to claims against the state, a state governmental entity, officer, or employee in his or her official capacity to remedy, through declaratory of injunctive relief, injuries caused or that may imminently be caused either in violation of state law, the Constitution of Georgia, or the Constitution of the United States or by enforcement of a state statute on the basis that the statute violates the Constitution of Georgia or the Constitution of the United States. The waiver applies only if: the aggrieved person provides 30-days' written notice to the attorney general of the aggrieved person's intent to file such a suit; the court is provided proof of service upon the attorney general or his or her designee and the state governmental entity that is charged with enforcing the state statute being challenged; and the suit for which notice has been provided and filed no later than 90 days after the notice has been provided.

Part I clarifies official immunity for state officers and employees, who shall not be subject to a suit in his or her individual capacity for performance or non-performance of official duties. When a suit names a state officer or employee in his or her individual capacity, under proper motion the court shall substitute as the party defendant such officer or employee in his or her official capacity, unless the suit is expressly authorized by state statute or federal law or the suit alleges the officer's or employee's conduct was outside of his/her scope of authority, unconstitutional, or illegal, in which case official immunity is waived.

The waiver of sovereign immunity in Part II is limited to claims against a county, municipal corporation, or consolidated government to remedy, through declaratory of injunctive relief, injuries caused to an aggrieved person or that may imminently be caused either by such political subdivisions acting without lawful authority, beyond the scope of its official power, or in violation of the Constitution of Georgia, the Constitution of the United States, a state statute, a rule or regulation, or a

local ordinance, or by the award of a proposed agreement with a political subdivision or an officer or employee in his or her official capacity, so long as the suit is filed no later than 10 days from the date that the award is made public. Additionally, the bill clarifies that sovereign immunity is waived for claims against political subdivisions for breach of contract. Part 2 also creates a 30-day written notice requirement.

Additionally, the state and its political subdivision's defense of sovereign immunity, including municipal corporations, is waived in quiet title proceedings within Part III. When a clear title to property or an instrument is held by the state or any state entity, notwithstanding any law to the contrary, the pleadings shall be served on the attorney general and the state or any department, agency, commission, board, authority, or state entity allegedly holding such title. If the attorney general does not file a responsive pleading in such actions then the court shall accept the state's acquiescence to the petitioner's filed claim for relief.

All judgments, orders, or rulings denying or refusing to grant immunity to one or more parties based upon sovereign, official, or qualified immunity are directly appealable to the Supreme Court of Georgia and the Court of Appeals, provided that the right to direct appeal shall not be exercised by any one party more than once in a case. Lastly, this Act shall apply to causes of action accruing on or after July 1, 2019.

Authored By: Rep. Andrew Welch (110th) **Rule Applied:** Structured
Motions to Agree: *(A motion to agree represents final passage of the bill.)*

HB 314 Georgia Uniform Certificate of Title for Vessels Act; enact

Bill Summary: House Bill 314, the 'Georgia Uniform Certificate of Title for Vessels Act,' requires that every vessel using the waters of this state be titled unless it is exempt from being required to be numbered. All outboard motors greater than 25 horsepower must be included on the vessel title. If an owner transfers the ownership of a damaged hull vessel that is covered by a certificate of number, the owner must submit an application to the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) for a new certificate of number including the title brand designation "damaged hull" or indicate on the certificate of title or bill of sale that the vessel is hull-damaged. The bill requires DNR to maintain electronic records of titles and provide a physical certificate of title to the owner or lienholder upon request.

Authored By: Rep. Ron Stephens (164th) **Rule Applied:** Structured
Motions to Agree: *(A motion to agree represents final passage of the bill.)*

HB 315 Local government; certain agreements from consultants who enter into contracts or arrangements to prepare or develop requirements for bids; provide

Bill Summary: House Bill 315 creates a new Code section which outlines the agreement that counties, municipalities, and other local governmental entities must enter into with consultants. The consultant will avoid any appearance of impropriety, disclose any potential conflicts of interest, and acknowledge that violation of the agreement entitles the governmental entity to seek injunctive relief. This Code section does not apply to any development authority or to economic development activities that are confidential under O.C.G.A. 50-18-4.

Authored By: Rep. Mark Newton (123rd) **Rule Applied:** Modified-Structured
Motions to Agree: *(A motion to agree represents final passage of the bill.)*

HB 323 Insurance; administration of claims by pharmacy benefit managers; revise provisions

Bill Summary: House Bill 323 requires that pharmacy benefit managers (PBMs) annually report to each client, insurer, or payer, the aggregate amount of all rebates that the PBM receives from pharmaceutical manufacturers in connection with claims administered on behalf of the client, as well as the aggregate amount of such rebates the PBM received from pharmaceutical manufacturers that it did not pass through to the client. Additionally, this bill also adds several new PBM provisions.

Authored By: Rep. David Knight (130th) **Rule Applied:** Modified-Structured

Motions to Agree: *(A motion to agree represents final passage of the bill.)*

HB 339 Special license plates; Alabama A&M University; establish

Bill Summary: House Bill 339 reclassifies the special license plate for the Georgia Aquarium as a wildlife conservation plate, which will increase the amount that the organization receives from \$10 for new and renewed tags to \$19 for new tags and \$20 for renewed tags.

The bill creates specialty license plates supporting Alabama A&M University, autism awareness, and Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.

Authored By: Rep. Dewey McClain (100th) **Rule Applied:** Modified-Open

Motions to Agree: *(A motion to agree represents final passage of the bill.)*

HB 345 Penal institutions; pregnant female inmates or a female inmate who is in the immediate postpartum period; provide prohibited practices

Bill Summary: House Bill 345 provides prohibitions relating to a pregnant female inmate or a female inmate who is in the immediate postpartum period.

It prohibits custodians from requiring a woman during the second or third trimester of pregnancy to squat or cough during a strip search. Additionally, a pregnant woman is not required to undergo any vaginal examinations unless prescribed and performed by a licensed health care professional. The bill prohibits a custodian from using handcuffs, waist shackles, leg irons, or restraints of any kind on a woman who is in the second or third trimester of pregnancy, in labor, in delivery, or in the immediate postpartum period.

House Bill 345 requires that a woman who is pregnant or in the immediate postpartum period may only be restrained using wrist handcuffs, held in front of her body, if there are compelling grounds to believe that the woman presents an immediate and serious threat of harm to herself or others, or is a substantial flight risk and cannot be contained by other means. Any wrist handcuffs used by a custodian on a pregnant woman, or postpartum, must be documented within two days of the incident, reviewed by the officer in charge, and retained by the penal institution; however, House Bill 345 does not prohibit the use of medical restraints by a licensed health care professional to ensure the medical safety of the woman.

House Bill 345 also requires that a woman who is pregnant, or in immediate postpartum, will not be placed in a solitary confinement setting; provided, however, that this will not prevent the placement of such woman in a cell or hospital room by herself.

Furthermore, The Department of Corrections and a sheriff overseeing a county jail in which a pregnant woman is incarcerated will make all reasonable efforts to facilitate the transfer of a pregnant woman who is temporarily held in a county jail pending transfer to a state penal institution. This does not apply to a pregnant woman who has been sentenced to a county jail by a judge.

Authored By: Rep. Sharon Cooper (43rd) **Rule Applied:** Modified-Structured

Motions to Agree: *(A motion to agree represents final passage of the bill.)*

HB 352 Sales and use tax; exemption for competitive projects of regional significance; change sunset provision

Bill Summary: House Bill 352 amends 48-8-3, relating to exemptions from sales and use tax, by extending the sunset date on the sales tax exemption for tangible personal property used for and in the construction of a competitive project of regional significance from June 30, 2019 to June 30, 2021.

Authored By: Rep. Albert Reeves (34th) **Rule Applied:** Structured

Motions to Agree: *(A motion to agree represents final passage of the bill.)*

HB 353 Insurance; create the crime of staging a motor vehicle collision

Bill Summary: House Bill 353 creates the crime of staging a motor vehicle collision when the intent is to commit insurance fraud or file a lawsuit. The felony offense shall be punishable by at least one, but no more than 10 years of imprisonment, depending on the nature of the collision.

Authored By: Rep. Kasey Carpenter (4th)

Rule Applied: Modified-Structured

Motions to Agree: *(A motion to agree represents final passage of the bill.)*

HB 365 Alternative ad valorem tax; motor vehicles; lower tax rate imposed

Bill Summary: House Bill 365 amends 32-9-21, 32-9-22, and 32-9-23, relating to the Cobb County Special District for Transit, by extending the sunset date from December 1, 2019 to December 1, 2021.

Authored By: Rep. Shaw Blackmon (146th)

Rule Applied: Structured

Motions to Agree: *(A motion to agree represents final passage of the bill.)*

HB 373 Labor, Department of; employment security; change certain provisions

Bill Summary: House Bill 373 authorizes the commissioner of the Department of Labor to set the rules and regulations necessary to follow the guidelines set forth in Title 34 of Georgia Code. The bill authorizes the commissioner to require criminal background checks for all Department of Labor employees or employee applicants.

The bill also modifies the time frame for a benefit year from a one-year period starting on the day of the claim to a 52-week period starting on the Sunday of or prior to the claim. The bill removes a provision which required employers to notify an employee in writing that their unemployment benefits may be denied if the employee violates the attendance policy. The bill clarifies the penalties for making false statements or misrepresentations when applying for unemployment benefits.

The bill allows employers to use discretion over using checks as a method of payment for their employees. The bill removes provisions which require employers who use payroll cards to allow employees to opt out of payroll card payments if they prefer a check or electronic credit transfer.

The bill increases the minimum and maximum amounts for weekly unemployment benefits.

Authored By: Rep. William Werkheiser (157th)

Rule Applied: Modified-Open

Motions to Agree: *(A motion to agree represents final passage of the bill.)*

HB 381 Child support; defined terms and terminology, grammar, and punctuation; revise and correct

Bill Summary: HB 381 amends the child support guidelines to correct grammatical errors, update internal cross-references, and revise defined terms. The bill also clarifies that all powers and discretion granted to the court relating to the determination of child support obligations are also available to the jury. The bill adds certain federal benefits received under the 'Social Security Act,' along with state funding associated with adoption assistance, to the list of income sources which may be excluded from one's gross income for child support determination.

Authored By: Rep. Chuck Efstoration (104th)

Rule Applied: Modified-Structured

Motions to Agree: *(A motion to agree represents final passage of the bill.)*

HB 382 Outdoor stewardship; eligible applicants for and recipients of the grants; redefine

Bill Summary: House Bill 382 aligns the language concerning qualified governments or recreation authorities eligible to receive funds from the Georgia Outdoor Stewardship Trust Fund with the definitions in the rules and regulations of the Department of Community Affairs. It states that no

more than five percent of all funds received by the Georgia Outdoor Stewardship Trust Fund may be used to administer the program.

Authored By: Rep. Jon Burns (159th) **Rule Applied:** Modified-Open
Motions to Agree: (A motion to agree represents final passage of the bill.)

HB 392 Board of Public Safety; expense allowance and travel cost reimbursement for members in like fashion as other state boards and commissions; provide

Bill Summary: House Bill 392 adds the Board of Public Safety to the list of boards and commissions whose members are eligible to receive an expense allowance and travel reimbursement. The bill requires the secretary of state to establish security protocols for voter registration information.

Authored By: Rep. Marcus Wiedower (119th) **Rule Applied:** Modified-Open
Motions to Agree: (A motion to agree represents final passage of the bill.)

HB 406 Local government; joint authorities to furnish certain information necessary for the state auditor to determine the net impact of their activities on associated tax digests; require

Bill Summary: HB 406 amends O.C.G.A. 36-62-5.1, relating to joint authorities, by adding a new subsection which requires each joint authority with established revenue sharing agreements between the joint authority and its participating local governments and revenue emanating pursuant to such an agreement to submit an annual report to the state revenue commissioner and the state auditor which identifies all real property and all property interests that are owned, in part or in full, by the joint authority as well as any encumbrances, liens, or covenants on such properties. The report must include all agreements or contracts related to the joint authority that are between one or more counties, municipalities, joint authorities, or private parties that reference taxes, lease agreements, or the sharing of revenue, funds, fees, taxes, assessments, fines, or any other income. The information in this report shall be used by the state auditor to determine each county's equalized adjusted property tax digest. The state auditor must annually produce a report that compiles the information gathered by the joint authorities and present that report to the affected local taxing jurisdiction.

Authored By: Rep. Bruce Williamson (115th) **Rule Applied:** Structured
Motions to Agree: (A motion to agree represents final passage of the bill.)

HB 424 Crimes and offenses; include certain sex crimes into the definition of criminal gang activity

Bill Summary: HB 424 adds trafficking persons for labor servitude or sexual servitude, keeping a place of prostitution, pimping, and pandering to the offenses listed in the definition of "criminal gang activity." In addition, the court may admit evidence relating to the past sexual behavior of the complaining witness when: offered to prove that someone other than the defendant was the source of physical evidence; it supports an inference that the accused could have reasonably believed the complaining witness consented to the conduct detailed in the prosecution; with respect to the defendant or other person if offered by the prosecutor; and when the exclusion of such evidence violates the defendant's constitutional rights. Before admission of this evidence, the court must conduct an in camera hearing to examine the merits of the motion.

HB 424 requires that Medicaid recipients have the same access to antiretroviral regimens, including single-tablet regimens, used to treat HIV and AIDS as included in the formulary established for the Georgia AIDS Drug Assistance Program.

Any new antiretroviral regimen must be added to the drug list utilized for medical assistance no later than 30 days after such regimen has been added to the formulary established within the program. Additionally, no utilization management tools, including but not limited to preferred drug lists, prior authorizations, or step edits, shall be implemented by the Department of Community Health for any antiretroviral regimens used to treat HIV and AIDS.

Authored By: Rep. Deborah Silcox (52nd) **Rule Applied:** Modified-Structured
Motions to Agree: (A motion to agree represents final passage of the bill.)

HB 445 Conservation and natural resources; shore protection; revise various provisions

Bill Summary: House Bill 445 provides new determinants for establishing boundaries associated with the 'Shore Protection Act.' The boundaries are to be drawn as follows: 25 feet landward from the landward most sand dunes to shore; 25 feet landward from the crest of a shoreline stabilization activity; or, in the absence of sand dunes or stabilization structures, 25 feet landward from the ordinary high-water mark for private property or 100 feet landward from the ordinary high-water mark for state property.

The bill provides for a minor activity permit that allows alterations to property if the impact is less than one-third of the portion of the property within the jurisdictional boundary.

HB 445 creates a Shore Protection Committee within the Department of Natural Resources. The committee shall be composed of five members, including the commissioner of the Department of Natural Resources and four individuals selected by the board. Three of the four board-selected individuals shall be a resident of Camden, Glynn, McIntosh, Liberty, Bryan, or Chatham County. The committee has the authority to issue orders or decisions on permits that are relevant to the 'Shore Protection Act'.

Authored By: Rep. Don Hogan (179th)

Rule Applied: Modified-Structured

Motions to Agree: *(A motion to agree represents final passage of the bill.)*

HB 446 Revenue and taxation; timber producers incurring losses from Hurricane Michael; clarify that certain credits that have been transferred shall not be refundable

Bill Summary: House Bill 446 amends the income tax credits for timber producers incurring losses from Hurricane Michael by limiting the refundability of the credit to the taxpayer who incurred the timber loss and by expanding the requirements to claim the credit to include the restoration of each acre for which timber losses were incurred to a condition that is expected to result in forest products or ecological services in the foreseeable future.

Authored By: Rep. David Knight (130th)

Rule Applied: Structured

Motions to Agree: *(A motion to agree represents final passage of the bill.)*

HB 454 Motor vehicles; operation of motorized mobility devices; provide

Bill Summary: House Bill 454 updates the policies which guide the Department of Natural Resources in creating and administering the Georgia Scenic Trails system to state that bicycle trails should provide protection for cyclists from traffic capable of moving over 20 miles per hour and to include electric assisted bicycles in the guidelines relating to bikeways. The bill also allows for electric assisted bicycles to be used in bicycle lanes. The legislation establishes three classes of electric assisted bicycles. Class I and Class II are authorized to be operated on any bicycle path or shared use path where bicycles are permitted to operate unless a local governing authority or state agency prohibits their use on those paths within its jurisdiction. Class III electric assisted bicycles are not permitted on a bicycle path or shared use path unless the path is within or adjacent to a highway, or if the use on these paths is authorized by the local governing authority or state agency with jurisdiction over the path. Any electric assisted bicycle manufactured after January 1, 2020 is required to have a permanently affixed label in a prominent location which identifies the class of the bike. An additional equipment requirement is a speedometer for the Class III models. The operation of a Class III bike is prohibited for any person under the age of 15. Any operator or passenger must wear a bicycle helmet and no rental or lease of a Class III bicycle may be approved unless the person has a bicycle helmet in their possession. Finally, the bill removes electric assisted bicycles from the Code section prohibiting use upon the highways of the state.

Authored By: Rep. Kevin Tanner (9th)

Rule Applied: Modified-Structured

Motions to Agree: *(A motion to agree represents final passage of the bill.)*

HB 458 Fire protection and safety; use of class B fire-fighting foam for testing purposes if such foam contains a certain class of fluorinated organic chemicals; prohibit

Bill Summary: House Bill 458 prohibits the use of per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) in Class B firefighting foam during training, unless it is used at a training facility capable of preventing the release of the foam into the environment. The bill does not restrict the use of foam containing PFAS for fire-fighting operations.

Authored By: Rep. Joseph Gullett (19th)

Rule Applied: Modified-Open

Motions to Agree: *(A motion to agree represents final passage of the bill.)*

HB 459 Education; driver's license verification system for school bus drivers; provide

Bill Summary: House Bill 459 requires each local school board to submit to the Department of Public Safety the full name and driver's license number of every person who is to be employed or used as a school bus driver prior to authorizing that person to operate a school bus. This list of authorized drivers is to be updated twice within a calendar year. The Department of Public Safety (DPS) is required to maintain a database of the names and license information of these authorized operators in coordination with the Georgia Technology Authority and the Department of Driver Services for the immediate electronic furnishing of information. DPS is to confirm or verify the status of each person's driver's license and provide notification to the local board of education if an operator's license or driving privileges have expired, been cancelled, suspended, or revoked; in these instances, the school board is required suspend the authorization to operate a school bus, as well as provide the reason for the suspension. The driver is required to notify the school board if the license or driving privilege is expired, cancelled, suspended, or revoked. Upon reinstatement of the license or driving privileges, the driver may request a new authorization to drive a school bus.

The bill removes the term "school crossing guard" to allow law enforcement or a designee to direct and regulate the flow of traffic at school crossings or within school speed zones.

Finally, this legislation allows for the authorization of certain personnel employed by or volunteering for law enforcement agencies or fire departments to assist in directing and regulating the flow of traffic. With the approval of the local governing authority, a police chief or fire chief of a local department is authorized to designate and train non-sworn employees and volunteers to assist. These designated persons must have completed at least one hour of a traffic control training program approved by the Georgia Public Safety Training Center.

Authored By: Rep. Ginny Ehrhart (36th)

Rule Applied: Modified-Structured

Motions to Agree: *(A motion to agree represents final passage of the bill.)*

HB 470 Law enforcement officers and agencies; analysis and collection of DNA for individuals charged with a felony offense but sentenced as a first offender or under conditional discharge; provide

Bill Summary: HB 470 updates and refines the Code regarding DNA sampling of felons and the purging of such records. The bill adds DNA collection to those who have been charged with a felony and the sentence has been imposed under first offender status. Moreover, DNA profiles of individuals must be destroyed within 30 days of the receipt of a certified copy of a: court order reversing the conviction together with a court order from the prosecuting attorney stating that the charges were dismissed; judgement of acquittal; sentencing order showing that all of the felony charges were reduced to misdemeanors; or court order showing successful completion of a sentence imposed under first offender status.

Authored By: Rep. Steven Sainz (180th)

Rule Applied: Modified-Structured

Motions to Agree: *(A motion to agree represents final passage of the bill.)*

HB 472 Juvenile Code; procedures concerning removal considerations; revise

Bill Summary: HB 472 updates the definition of "fictive kin" to include a person who is known to and has a substantial and positive relationship with the family and child prior to the child's placement in foster care, and who is willing and able to provide a suitable home for the child. The bill also allows a judge to order a temporary alternative to foster care by requiring a child to remain in his or her home as a safeguard rather than requiring removal. Moreover, the bill prohibits Department of Juvenile Justice staffers to serve as intake officers for juvenile courts and lists the training and

continuing education requirements for juvenile court intake officers. Moreover, the responsibility for immediate determination if a child should be released or taken into custody is vested with court and for the court to consider alternatives to a child's removal from a home. HB 472 grants the authority for judges to issue ex parte orders prior to preliminary hearings as an attempt to find temporary alternatives to foster care in the best interests of the child and requires preliminary hearings to occur within five days. If a judge orders a child's removal from the home, the court must make a written determination that staying in the home would be harmful to the child. When a temporary alternative to foster care is found, there must be a walk-through inspection of the home. Within 72 hours of placement, there must be checks for criminal records, sex offender registry, and child abuse records of everyone in the home. The bill also adds a requirement that judges in delinquency cases who are deciding the continued custody for a child must consider placement options with a relative, neighbor, or family friend who will return the child to court when needed in lieu of placement with the Division of Family and Children Services.

Authored By: Rep. Albert Reeves (34th)

Rule Applied: Modified-Structured

Motions to Agree: *(A motion to agree represents final passage of the bill.)*

HB 478 Social services; improvements to the operation of the child abuse registry; provide

Bill Summary: HB 478 improves and streamlines the operation of the child abuse registry. Minors are removed from the registry. The bill provides that when an abuse investigator, through preponderance of the evidence, finds that abuse has occurred, a copy of the investigator's report must be included in the child abuse registry unless a hearing to dispute the report is requested within 30 days. Moreover, the accused child abuser must be: given notice of the report; informed of the right to a hearing; notified of the process involved in the hearing; and told the consequences of being named in the child abuse registry. HB 478 refines the process for expungement from the registry based on the nature and circumstances of the crime, as well as the risk to the community that such individual poses.

Authored By: Rep. Mandi Ballinger (23rd)

Rule Applied: Modified-Structured

Motions to Agree: *(A motion to agree represents final passage of the bill.)*

HB 492 Property; dispossessory proceedings; require applications for execution of a writ of possession be made within 30 days of issuance of the writ unless good cause is shown

Bill Summary: HB 492 amends the Code section relating to a writ of possession issued by a court order to recover possession of land or property. Applications to execute a writ of possession by a sheriff or marshal must be made within 30 days of issuance of the writ, unless the application is accompanied by an affidavit showing good cause for a delay. If the landlord fails to execute a writ of possession within 30 days from the issuance of any order granting the writ of possession, the landlord must reapply for the writ.

Authored By: Rep. Bonnie Rich (97th)

Rule Applied: Modified-Structured

Motions to Agree: *(A motion to agree represents final passage of the bill.)*

HB 502 Civil practice; continuances for members of the Board of Regents and the Attorney General; revise

Bill Summary: HB 502 amends the criteria under which court continuances shall be granted to accommodate the official duties of members of the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia, members of the State Board of Education, and the attorney general. For members of the Board of Regents or the State Board of Education, the bill allows for continuances during the board's sessions when the member is otherwise occupied as counsel or party in any court case. Current law requires that the member simply be "engaged" as counsel or party in any case at the time of the board's session. For cases in which the attorney general is of counsel, the bill allows for a continuance if the case is scheduled to be called for any reason, rather than the current "for any purpose," during sessions of the General Assembly or 15 days preceding or following such sessions.

Legislative leave is also addressed. A member of the General Assembly who is a party to a civil or criminal case or lead counsel for a case pending in any trial or appellate court, shall be granted upon

request the stay of a case: for seven days prior to the regular or extraordinary session of the General Assembly; the length of any regular or extraordinary session of the General Assembly; or the entirety of the day during which a member serves or is a staff member of a legislative committee and the committee holds a scheduled meeting; or for civil cases when the member attends a national legislative conference or board meeting, a caucus meeting, or meeting of a study committee of the General Assembly.

For all other requests, the member may receive a continuance and stay when the member certifies to the court that his or her presence is required elsewhere due to his or her duties with the General Assembly. The certification must be in writing and state with a degree of specificity the nature of the General Assembly duties that require the continuance or stay. Opposing counsel, any person who is alleged by the state to be a victim in a criminal case, any party in a civil case, or the court itself has 10 days to object to a member's request by stating with particularity the grounds in which a stay or continuance will cause significant harm to the rights of the parties or is detrimental to the interest of justice.

The court, upon the receipt of the objection, will consider the following factors in determining whether to grant or deny the continuance or stay: the length of time the case has been pending; the length of the delay that the stay or continuance will cause to the resolution of the case; the nature of the duties of the General Assembly that require the continuance or stay; and other factors relevant in determining the harm to the rights of the parties.

Authored By: Rep. Andrew Welch (110th) **Rule Applied:** Structured
Motions to Agree: *(A motion to agree represents final passage of the bill.)*

HB 512 Agricultural Commodity Commission for Propane; provide

Bill Summary: House Bill 512 creates the Agricultural Commodity Commission for Propane. The commission will consist of five members, three of whom are elected by the House Committee on Agriculture and Consumer Affairs and three members elected by the Senate Agriculture and Consumer Affairs Committee. All members of the commission must be either a propane dealer or distributor and cannot be a member of the General Assembly.

No more than 10 percent of funds collected can be used for administrative expenses. A referendum is to be held every five years to vote on the continuation of the commission.

HB 707 allows for the commissioner of the Department of Agriculture to promulgate and adopt rules related to fertilizers, liming materials, and soil amendments derived from industrial by-products. The commissioner is authorized to share any related information and consult with agencies such as, but not limited to, the Environmental Protection Division of the Department of Natural Resources and the United States Department of Agriculture's Natural Resources Conservation Service.

Authored By: Rep. Sam Watson (172nd) **Rule Applied:** Modified-Open
Motions to Agree: *(A motion to agree represents final passage of the bill.)*

HB 516 Professions and businesses; profession of professional structural engineer; provide

Bill Summary: HB 516 provides for the profession and licensure of professional structural engineers governed by the Board of Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors. The bill outlaws any persons other than professional structural engineers to practice or offer structural engineering in the state. To be eligible for a certificate of registration as a professional structural engineer, an applicant must meet the following requirements: obtain a certification by the board as an engineer-in-training; have no less than four years' experience in structural engineering that is satisfactory to the board; and subsequently pass a board-approved written exam. Any applicant seeking a certificate of registration as a professional structural engineer prior to January 1, 2021, who already holds a valid certificate of a professional engineer from the board, has a record of primary practice of structural engineering, and is currently engaged in the practice of structural engineering may submit a signed affidavit to the board for the purpose of determining if the qualifications have been met for a certificate of registration as a professional structural engineer.

Authored By: Rep. Vance Smith (133rd) **Rule Applied:** Modified-Open
Motions to Agree: (A motion to agree represents final passage of the bill.)

HB 525 Georgia International and Maritime Trade Center; rename to Savannah Convention Center

Bill Summary: HB 525 changes the name of the Georgia International Maritime Trade Center to the Savannah Convention Center. The bill also creates a state authority, the Savannah-Georgia Convention Center Authority, to operate the center located in Chatham County, Georgia.

The authority has seven members appointed by the governor, two members appointed by the Chatham County delegation of the Senate, two members of the Chatham County delegation of the House of Representatives, the president of the Savannah Economic Development Authority, who is an ex-officio member with a vote, and the president of the Savannah Area Convention and Visitors Bureau, who is an ex-officio member with a vote. The appointed members shall serve three-year terms, which stagger over the first three years as follows: three members start with a one-year term, two members start with a two-year term, and three members start with a three-year term. The member appointments from the delegation in both the Senate and House of Representatives shall have one member serve an initial two-year term and one member serve an initial three-year term. These members shall be appointed by June 1, 2019 and shall take office July 1, 2019.

An executive committee consists of a chairman, vice-chairman, and secretary-treasurer. These positions are elected by the authority members, and five members shall constitute a quorum. Authority members are not entitled to compensation, but are reimbursed for actual costs incurred in performing their duties.

House Bill 525 authorizes the authority to: have a seal; acquire land by purchase, lease, or otherwise; acquire its own name by purchase; employ personnel for administrative duties; make and execute contracts; acquire and manage its own projects logistically and financially; accept funds and/or materials from the state government and federal government; have the ability to lease, sell, exchange, or grant surplus property, both real and personal; inform interested parties on land acquisition and facility developments to take place; procure insurance and liability policies; adopt, change, and repeal its own by-laws; and accept loans limited to \$50 million.

The authority is exempt from paying sales and use taxes on property, and any legal activity shall be brought in the Superior Court of Chatham County. The authority is able to retain any revenue for its own purposes and is subject to an annual audit of income and expenditures. Should the authority be dissolved for any reason, titles to any property shall be conveyed to the state of Georgia. This authority succeeds the Georgia International and Maritime Trade Center on July 1, 2019.

Authored By: Rep. Ron Stephens (164th) **Rule Applied:** Modified-Open
Motions to Agree: (A motion to agree represents final passage of the bill.)

HB 543 Domestic relations; equitable caregivers; provide

Bill Summary: House Bill 543 creates a process by which a judge may confer standing to have access to the court in cases involving the care, custody, or welfare of a minor child upon individuals who can demonstrate by clear and convincing evidence that to do otherwise would cause the child to suffer physical or long-term emotional harm. This high bar to have standing as an equitable caregiver can only be met by proving: a permanent, unequivocal, committed, and responsible parental role in the child's life has already been established; this role was fostered or supported by a parent of the child; and the individual seeking standing has a bonded and dependent relationship with the child and has also accepted full and permanent responsibilities of the child without expectation of financial compensation. Equitable caregiver standing will not be available in cases in which the parents of the child are not separated and the child is living with both parents, or if any child welfare and youth services cases involving the child or parents is open with the Division of Family and Children Services of the Department of Human Services. If standing is established, the court may confer certain rights on the child to have contact with the equitable caregiver.

Authored By: Rep. Chuck Efstoration (104th) **Rule Applied:** Modified-Structured
Motions to Agree: (A motion to agree represents final passage of the bill.)

HB 685 Fort Valley Utility Commission; provide for establishment and powers

Bill Summary: House Bill 685 provides for the establishment and powers of the Fort Valley Utility Commission. The bill also states the commission shall annually pay to the city of Fort Valley, in lieu of franchise fees, the greater of \$1.25 million or six percent of all revenue collected for charges for services for the year.

Authored By: Rep. Patty Bentley (139th)

Rule Applied:

Motions to Agree: *(A motion to agree represents final passage of the bill.)*

HR 165 Property; conveyance of certain state owned real property; authorize

Bill Summary: HR 165 is a conveyance resolution for properties located in six counties, conveying property owned by the state of Georgia or amending those conveyances, as follows:

Article 1 conveys approximately 0.062 of an acre, being a portion the Savannah International Trade and Convention Center, under the custody of the Georgia Department of Economic Development, to the City of Savannah, or to a local government or state entity, for a consideration of \$10 so as long as the property is used for public purposes in perpetuity.

Article 2 conveys approximately 1.398 acres in fee and 1.244 acres of permanent easement, being a portion of approximately 146 acres, commonly known as the Atlanta Farmers Market, under the custody of the Georgia Department of Agriculture, to the Georgia Department of Transportation for the purpose of the construction of a C-D roadway to service the I-75 and I-285 interchange for a total consideration of \$529,976; said total consists of \$290,693 for the improved property, \$81,298 for the permanent easement, \$135,000 in cost to cure and \$22,935 in damage to trade fixtures.

Article 3 conveys approximately 15.005 acres of real property, commonly known as the Southwest Probation Center, under the custody of the Georgia Department of Corrections, to Colquitt County for \$10 so long as the property is used for a public purpose in perpetuity and that Colquitt County shall not take, nor fail to take, any action which would cause any outstanding tax exempt bonds to be deemed private activity bonds or arbitrage bonds under the tax code and shall not use the above-described property for any nongovernmental purpose, or any purpose that would give rise to private business use within the meaning of the tax code, which shall cause a reversion to the state of Georgia, or its successors and assigns, of all the rights, title, privileges, powers, and easement granted herein; or to a local government or state entity for fair market value; or by competitive bid for fair market value.

Article 4 concerns a ground lease of approximately 0.68 acres, being a portion of 8.38 acres, commonly known as the Cumming Park and Ride Lot, under the custody of the Georgia State Road and Tollway Authority, to the city of Cumming for term of 50-years with a 25-year renewal option for a consideration of \$10,600 annually and the requirements that the city of Cumming maintain the storm water detention pond in accordance to law and remove of the water tank upon the termination of the lease.

Article 5 conveys approximately 41.188 acres, commonly known as Lanier Technical College at Oakwood, under the custody of the Technical College System of Georgia, to the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia, or to a local government or state entity, for a consideration of \$10 so long as the property is used for public purpose in perpetuity.

Article 6 leases approximately 276 square feet of office space located in the Georgia Public Safety Training Facility, under the custody of the Georgia Public Safety Training Center, to Justice Federal Credit Union for a term of 10-years, with two 5-year renewal options, for an initial annual rent of \$5,000, to be increased annually at a compounded rate of 3 percent, and for such further terms and conditions as determined by the State Properties Commission as to be in the best interest of the state of Georgia.

Authored By: Rep. Gerald Greene (151st)

Rule Applied: Modified-Open

Motions to Agree: *(A motion to agree represents final passage of the bill.)*

HR 182 Property; granting of non-exclusive easements; authorize

Bill Summary: HR 182 authorizes the granting of non-exclusive easements for the construction, operation, and maintenance of facilities, utilities, roads, and ingress and egress in, on, over, under, upon, across, or through property owned by the state of Georgia in the counties of Barrow, Camden, Cobb, Floyd, Houston, and White, as follows:

Article 1 grants an easement to the Georgia Power Company or its successors and assigns over approximately one acre under the custody of the Georgia Department of Natural Resources to construct, install, operate, and maintain underground electrical distribution lines and associated equipment that will serve a new visitor center at Fort Yargo State Park for \$10.

Article 2 grants an easement to Georgia Power Company or its successors and assigns over approximately 1.56 acres under the custody of the Technical College System of Georgia for the construction, installation, operation and maintenance of underground and overhead electrical distribution lines to serve TCSG-265 (Classroom and Library Building) at the Camden County Campus of Coastal Pines Technical College for \$10.

Article 3 grants an easement to the city of Marietta or its successors and assigns over approximately 0.0157 of an acre under the custody of the States Properties Commission for the construction, installation, operation and maintenance of a pedestrian trail crossing, for the project known as Chattahoochee River (KMCR) Trail (P.I. 0010705) over the Western and Atlantic Railroad for \$1,879.

Article 4 grants an easement to the North Georgia Electric Membership Corporation or its successors and assigns over approximately 0.08 of an acre under the custody of the Georgia Department of Natural Resources for the construction, installation, operation and maintenance of underground distribution lines and underground electrical equipment to serve the new Department Region One Game Management and Fisheries Office Buildings for \$10.

Article 5 grants an easement to Flint Energies, Inc. or its successors and assigns over approximately 0.449 of an acre under the custody of the Department of Natural Resources for the construction, installation, operation and maintenance of underground electrical equipment and lighting poles at Flat Creek Public Fishing Area for \$10.

Article 6 grants an easement to Habersham Electric Membership Corporation or its successors and assigns over approximately 0.3 of an acre under the custody of the Department of Natural Resources for the construction, installation, operation and maintenance of underground electrical equipment and distribution lines to serve a new entrance sign at Hardman Farm Historic Site for \$10.

Authored By: Rep. Gerald Greene (151st) **Rule Applied:** Modified-Open
Motions to Agree: *(A motion to agree represents final passage of the bill.)*

SB 2 Public Utilities and Public Transportation; electric membership corporations and their affiliates; authorize; broadband services; provide

Bill Summary: Senate Bill 2 states an electric membership corporation (EMC) may provide and operate broadband facilities or form, fund, support, and operate a broadband affiliate. An EMC or an affiliate may apply for and utilize loans, grants, or other financing and enter into contracts, agreements, partnerships, or other types of business relationships.

No EMC, broadband affiliate, or gas affiliate shall permit cross-subsidization between its electricity services activities, its broadband activities, or its gas activities. Furthermore, an affiliate providing retail broadband service may not condition the receipt of electricity service upon receipt of broadband services, nor provide more favorable terms for electricity services in exchange for the purchase of retail broadband service.

Each broadband affiliate must develop and maintain a cost allocation manual, to be approved by the Public Service Commission (PSC), describing the EMC's methods of cost allocation and other

information and policies required to ensure compliance with the cross-subsidization requirements. The PSC shall have jurisdiction over each broadband affiliate and each EMC that has a broadband affiliate that provides retail broadband.

The bill states that an EMC that terminates, without cause, a new or existing pole attachment agreement with a provider shall not be permitted to form or utilize a broadband affiliate for one year from the date of termination if the number of poles with attachments under the terminated agreement constitutes one-half or more of all EMC's poles containing an attachment by a provider.

Lastly, the bill states the General Assembly finds a person providing broadband services should be permitted to use existing electric easements to provide or expand access to broadband services.

Authored By: Sen. Steve Gooch (51st) **Rule Applied:** Modified-Structured
Motions to Agree: *(A motion to agree represents final passage of the bill.)*

SB 9 Invasion of Privacy; sexual extortion; prohibit; definitions; elements of the crime; provide

Bill Summary: SB 9 prohibits sexual extortion. The bill outlaws the conduct of intentionally coercing orally, in writing, or electronically another individual, more than 18 years of age, to distribute any photograph, video, or image that depicts any individual in a state of nudity or engaged in sexually-explicit conduct. The punishment upon the first offense is a misdemeanor of high and aggravated nature. The punishment upon the second or subsequent offense is punished as a felony with imprisonment for not less than one nor more than five years. Each violation is considered a separate offense and does not merge with any other offense.

SB 9 also updates and revises the crime of sexual assault by persons with supervisory or disciplinary authority. An individual commits the offense of improper sexual contact by an employee or agent in the first degree when such individual knowingly engages in sexually-explicit conduct with another person, whom such employee or agent knows or reasonably should have known is contemporaneously: enrolled as a student at a school where he or she is an employee or agent; under probation, parole, accountability court, or pretrial diversion supervision, of the office or court in which he or she is an employee or agent; a patient in or at a hospital in which he or she is an employee or agent; in the custody of a correctional or juvenile detention facility, facility providing services to a person with a disability or child welfare, in which he or she is an employee or agent; the subject of a psychotherapy or counseling of such employee or agent; or admitted for care at a sensitive care facility in which he or she is an employee or agent. The punishment is imprisonment for not less than one nor more than 25 years, a fine not to exceed \$50,000, and the offender must be placed on the Sexual Offender Registry.

An individual commits the offense of improper sexual contact by an employee or agent in the second degree when such individual knowingly engages in sexual contact, excluding sexually-explicit conduct, with another person, whom such employee or agent knows or reasonably should have known is contemporaneously: enrolled as a student at a school which he or she is an employee or agent; under probation, parole, accountability court, or pretrial diversion supervision, of the office or court in which he or she is an employee or agent; a patient in or at a hospital in which he or she is an employee or agent; in the custody of a correctional or juvenile detention facility, facility providing services to a person with a disability or child welfare, in which he or she is an employee or agent; the subject of a psychotherapy or counseling of such employee or agent; or admitted for care at a sensitive care facility in which he or she is an employee or agent. The punishment is a misdemeanor of high and aggravated nature. Upon a second or subsequent conviction of the offense of improper sexual contact by an employee or agent in the second degree, the person is guilty of a felony with imprisonment for not less than one nor more than five years and must be placed on the Sexual Offender Registry.

Authored By: Sen. Harold Jones II (22nd) **Rule Applied:** Modified-Structured
Motions to Agree: *(A motion to agree represents final passage of the bill.)*

Motions to Disagree

HB 85 Sales and use tax; organ procurement organizations; exempt sales

Bill Summary: House Bill 85 amends O.C.G.A. 48-8-3, relating to exemptions from sales and use tax, by including an exemption for organ procurement organizations. Each organ procurement organization is required to submit an annual report to the Department of Community Health, which includes the number of donors and transplants facilitated by the organization in the prior fiscal year.

Authored By: Rep. Penny Houston (170th)

Rule Applied: Structured

Motions to Disagree: *(A motion to disagree sends the bill back to the Senate for consideration.)*

HB 276 Sales and use tax; certain persons that facilitate certain retail sales; require collection of tax

Bill Summary: House Bill 276 amends O.C.G.A. 48-8-2, relating to definitions regarding sales and use tax, by adding the terms "marketplace facilitator" and "marketplace seller", as well as expanding the definition of "dealer", to require marketplace facilitators to collect and remit sales tax on behalf of marketplace sellers. The bill also exempts transportation services provided by a limousine carrier, ride share driver, ride share network service, taxi service, transportation referral service, or transportation referral service provider from state and local sales tax.

A "marketplace facilitator" is a person who contracts with a marketplace seller to make available or facilitate taxable retail sales on the marketplace seller's behalf. This includes promoting, marketing, advertising, taking or reserving orders, providing the physical or electronic infrastructure that brings purchasers and marketplace sellers together, or otherwise assisting the marketplace seller in making retail sales and collecting, charging, processing, or otherwise facilitating payment for the retail sales.

A "marketplace seller" is a person that conducts retail sales through or facilitated by any physical or electronic marketplace or platform operated by a marketplace facilitator.

The definition of "dealer" is expanded to include marketplace facilitators who assisted taxable sales through delivery, held for pickup, used, consumed, distributed, stored for use or consumption, or rendered as a service in Georgia if the total value of all sales, including sales from marketplace sellers and the marketplace facilitator itself, exceeds \$100,000 in the previous or current calendar year.

Authored By: Rep. Brett Harrell (106th)

Rule Applied: Structured

Motions to Disagree: *(A motion to disagree sends the bill back to the Senate for consideration.)*

HB 322 Local government; advertisement of certain bid or proposal opportunities; change provisions

Bill Summary: House Bill 322 provides that if a bid or proposal opportunity is extended by a county, municipal corporation, or local board of education valued at \$100,000 or more, the bid must be advertised in the same way and for the same period of time that the local government entity would normally advertise a bid or proposal. A governmental entity must publicly advertise a contract opportunity on the Georgia Procurement Registry for at least four weeks.

Authored By: Rep. Tom McCall (33rd)

Rule Applied: Modified-Structured

Motions to Disagree: *(A motion to disagree sends the bill back to the Senate for consideration.)*

SB 68 Local School Systems; financial management; strengthen provisions

Bill Summary: Senate Bill 68 increases training requirements for local boards of education by the addition of financial management training and requires all previous annual training requirements be completed before becoming eligible for re-election. Newly-elected board members will receive guidance and training specific to his or her local school system's most recent audit findings and the risk status of the local school system.

The Department of Audits and Accounts shall designate local school systems that have had irregularities or budget deficits for three or more consecutive years as high-risk local school systems and school systems with one year to two consecutive years of irregularities or budget deficits as moderate-risk local school systems. The local school superintendent must submit a corrective action

plan to the Department of Education within 120 days of receiving notice of the risk designation from the local board of education. The local school superintendent or a high-risk or moderate-risk local school system will also be required by Senate Bill 68 to complete financial management and financial governance training.

SB 68 requires specific contractual obligations be made relating to maintaining or achieving financial stability of the local school system when entering into a flexibility contract with the State Board of Education. If a system has been designated as a high-risk local school system, there must be a written corrective action plan in place.

The Department of Education will monitor the financial stability of each local school system and provide support and guidance to high-risk and moderate-risk local school systems.

Part II of Senate Bill 68 amends multiple provisions of the Code relating to the Chief Turnaround Office by moving the oversight of turnaround schools from the State Board of Education to the Department of Education and establishing a teacher leader's stipend.

Teacher leaders, known as turnaround instructional innovation specialists, will be eligible to receive a stipend funded by a 2:1 state/local partnership with \$5,000 funded from the state and another \$2,500 from the local system. A teacher leader must agree to teach in a turnaround school for at least three consecutive years and to other criteria as required by the state school superintendent in O.C.G.A. 20-14-49.4(c) in order to receive a stipend. After receiving a stipend for three consecutive years, the teacher leader will be eligible to convert the state portion of the stipend into a permanent salary step increase on the state salary schedule, subject to appropriations.

Part III of Senate Bill 68 amends O.C.G.A. 20-2-989.7 to allow teachers who have accepted a contract for the fourth or subsequent consecutive school year to appeal a personnel evaluation of 'Unsatisfactory,' 'Ineffective,' or 'Needs Development'. Local school systems must develop an appeals policy for teachers.

Part IV of Senate Bill 64 amends O.C.G.A. 20-2-58 by requiring local boards of education to hold a public comment period during every regular monthly meeting. Local boards of education shall not require individuals to give more than 24-hours' notice before the meeting to participate in the public comment period.

Authored By: Sen. Freddie Sims (12th) **Rule Applied:** Modified-Structured
Motions to Disagree: *(A motion to disagree sends the bill back to the Senate for consideration.)*

Rules Calendar

HR 48 Georgia's coastal tourism and fisheries; support

Bill Summary: HR 48 declares the state of Georgia's opposition to oil and gas exploration and drilling activities, and expresses support for coastal Georgia tourism and fisheries.

Authored By:	Rep. Carl Gilliard (162nd)	Rule Applied:	Modified-Open
House Committee:	Natural Resources & Environment	Committee Action:	03-21-2019 Do Pass
Floor Vote:	Yeas: 125 Nays: 36	Amendments:	
Floor Action:	Adopted (Resolution)		

SB 15 "Keeping Georgia's Schools Safe Act"

Bill Summary: Senate Bill 15 creates the 'Keeping Georgia's Schools Safe Act'. The act requires public schools to conduct site threat assessments by a certified private individual or company or by a government agency. Every public school must conduct a site threat assessment before January 1, 2021 and every five years thereafter. Every public school must submit a school safety plan to the Department of Education after the local law enforcement agency has approved the plan. The Department of Education will post a list of which schools have submitted a school safety plan and which schools have yet to meet this requirement.

Additionally, SB 15 streamlines communication efforts between schools and the relevant state intelligence agencies by designating a single individual at each school as the school safety coordinator. The bill requires schools to use and promote a statewide mobile application, the 'See Something Send Something' anonymous app, to report suspicious activity or potential threats.

Authored By: Sen. John Albers (56th)
House Education
Committee:
Floor Vote: Yeas: 110 Nays: 56

Rule Applied: Modified-Structured
Committee 03-27-2019 Do Pass by Committee
Action: Substitute
Amendments: AM 41 0466

SB 20 Counties and Municipal Corporations; establishment of banking improvement zones; areas underserved; provide

Bill Summary: SB 20 allows for the commissioner of the Department of Agriculture to promulgate and adopt rules related to fertilizers, liming materials, and soil amendments derived from industrial by-products. The commissioner is authorized to share any related information and consult with agencies such as, but not limited to, the Environmental Protection Division of the Department of Natural Resources and the United States Department of Agriculture's Natural Resources Conservation Service. Any material received by a property owner or property custodian that is compensated by a distributor is not to be considered a "fertilizer". Industrial-by-product does not include human waste or sewage.

Authored By: Sen. Michael Rhett (33rd)
House Banks & Banking
Committee:
Floor Vote: Yeas: 157 Nays: 4

Rule Applied: Modified-Structured
Committee 03-18-2019 Do Pass
Action:
Amendments:

SB 71 Hospital Authority; sale or lease of a hospital; provisions; revise

Bill Summary: Senate Bill 71 ensures that the proceeds from the sale or lease of a hospital owned by a hospital authority or political subdivision of the state are put into an irrevocable trust and are only used to provide indigent health care. If certain conditions are met by the hospital authority or political subdivision, additional investment options are permitted.

Authored By: Sen. Ben Watson (1st)
House Governmental Affairs
Committee:
Floor Vote: Yeas: Nays:
Floor Action: Recommit to Rules

Rule Applied: Modified-Structured
Committee 03-27-2019 Do Pass
Action:
Amendments:

SB 103 Air Facilities; airports owned by a county, municipality shall not assess any fee to a veteran for motor vehicle parking; provide

Bill Summary: Senate Bill 103 requires any airport owned or operated by a county, city, or other political subdivision of the state with scheduled commercial air service to establish at least two priority parking spaces for veterans. For the purposes of this Code section, the term "veteran" applies to any person issued a motor vehicle license plate designated for veterans and who has that plate on the motor vehicle that he or she is operating or is a passenger therein.

Authored By: Sen. Gail Davenport (44th)
House Transportation
Committee:
Floor Vote: Yeas: 163 Nays: 3

Rule Applied: Modified-Structured
Committee 03-28-2019 Do Pass by Committee
Action: Substitute
Amendments:

SB 142 Insurance; statement indicating that the subscriber's health policy is fully insured is included on a subscriber's health insurance identification card; require

Bill Summary: Senate Bill 142 requires that the subscriber's health insurance identification card include a statement indicating that the subscriber's health policy is fully insured.

Authored By: Sen. Larry Walker III (20th)

Rule Applied: Modified-Structured

House Committee: Insurance
Floor Vote: Yeas: 155 Nays: 3

Committee Action: 03-27-2019 Do Pass by Committee Substitute
Amendments:

SB 171 Courts, Primaries and Elections, and Ad Valorem Taxation; compensation of various local government officials; modify

Bill Summary: Senate Bill 171 increases the minimum salaries for each clerk of the superior court, judge of the probate court, sheriff, tax commissioner, and tax collector in this state, based on population levels established by the decennial census. The bill increases the additional minimum monthly salary for a clerk of the superior court who serves as clerk of a state court, and for a sheriff who performs additional duties as sheriff for a court or courts. Minimum monthly salaries are increased for the chief deputy registrars and tax collectors or commissioners who perform duties of the sheriff.

The additional minimum monthly salary is increased for any judge of a probate court who also holds and conducts elections or is responsible for traffic cases. Beginning January 1, 2021, the minimum annual compensation will be increased for any probate judge who serves as chief magistrate or magistrate.

The effective date for the census is changed from July 1 to January 1 of the first year after the year that the census was conducted.

Authored By: Sen. John Wilkinson (50th)
House Committee: Governmental Affairs
Floor Vote: Yeas: 132 Nays: 27

Rule Applied: Modified-Structured
Committee Action: 03-13-2019 Do Pass by Committee Substitute
Amendments:

SB 190 Child Custody Intrastate Jurisdiction Act; party may bring a counterclaim for contempt in response to a complaint seeking a change of legal or physical custody; provide

Bill Summary: SB 190 updates and clarifies the Code regarding legal custody and physical custody of a minor child. The bill also allows for counter claim actions in custody cases.

Authored By: Sen. John Kennedy (18th)
House Committee: Juvenile Justice
Floor Vote: Yeas: 159 Nays: 0

Rule Applied: Modified-Structured
Committee Action: 03-28-2019 Do Pass by Committee Substitute
Amendments:

SB 200 Georgia Department of Transportation; procedure for appealing the rejection of a contract bid; require

Bill Summary: Senate Bill 200 requires the Department of Transportation (GDOT) to establish a procedure to appeal the rejection of any bid for contracts the department is authorized to enter into by rule and regulation.

The sunset provision on the sales tax exemption on jet fuel is extended to June 30, 2039. The bill establishes an excise tax of \$.005 per gallon on jet fuel.

The bill allows for single county transit SPLOSTs for counties outside of the non-attainment area and provides procedures for project selection, mobility zone council approval, and ballot questions.

For-hire ground transport providers are exempt from sales and use tax and are subject to an excise tax. For-hire ground transport trips will have an excise fee of \$.50 and shared trips will have an excise fee of \$.25. These fees are required to be appropriated exclusively for transit and transit projects. If the amount collected is ever not appropriated for a fiscal year, the amount collected is reduced by half. In the second fiscal year in which the amount collected is not appropriated, the fee ceases to be collected.

The legislation creates the Department of Mobility and Innovation to govern and coordinate transit services across the state. This governance structure employs the establishment of mobility zones and

mobility managers. The department assumes the functions related to the administration, implementation, or coordination of transit services and all federal and state funding related to those functions that are currently assigned to the departments of Transportation, Human Services, Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities, and Community Health. This transfer of functions includes vacant positions and persons employed by these departments.

The Georgia Regional Transportation Authority is abolished, and the employees of the authority are transferred to the Atlanta-region Transit Link (ATL) Authority in 2020. The State Road and Tollway Authority (SRTA) will continue to perform the same functions and remains administratively attached to GDOT; however, the executive director of SRTA will also be the commissioner of the Department of Mobility and Innovation. The bill allows for the continuation of shared staff and services among SRTA and the ATL, which is administratively attached to the department.

SB 200 establishes within the Department of Mobility and Innovation a Transit Link Division and a Transit Coordinating Council. The Transit Link Division is responsible for the development of programs and the provision of services and funds in coordination with public and private entities to ensure cost effective and efficient delivery of transit for the: indigent, aged; disabled; unemployed; or the infirmed. The Transit Coordinating Council acts as an advisory council to the Transit Link Division regarding the implementation of programs and provision of transit to the indigent, the aged, persons with disabilities, the unemployed, or the ill. Composed of the commissioner and the commissioners of transportation, human services, behavioral health and developmental disabilities, and community health or their respective designees. The commissioner of Mobility or his or her designee will serve as the chairperson.

Service areas are established as mobility zones. These zones function as the regional planning entity for transit in each designated mobility zone of the state. There are nine zones established. Each has a mobility zone council to approve regional transit plans with zone 9 being the ATL region with the ATL board serving as the council for this zone. The remaining eight councils are chosen from membership of regional commission by the chairpersons of the regional commissions in a mobility zone.

There are three pilot programs established by the legislation. They include a voucher program for the use of transit the use of transit to the unemployed and underemployed. The Department of Mobility may work with Department of Labor to get good data and determine applicant eligibility. These vouchers would be made available only to applicants living in a county with an unemployment rate at 125% or greater than the state's average or a per capita income of less than 75% of the state's average. Required reporting for each of the three years to the Governor, Speaker, and Lieutenant Governor on implementation and effectiveness with the final report to include recommendations for expansion of the pilot statewide is included.

The second pilot is a tax incentive program. Tax credits for employers who provide a transit benefit program to potential employees in order to use transit to travel to and from work. Mobility zone managers work with employers interested in using transit benefit as a recruitment tool. This is limited to one mobility zone and the incentive is a credit of \$100 per month per new employee hired and enrolled in the program, capped at \$1 million annually. The program requires quarterly reports submitted to the Transit Link Division to detail implementation and effectiveness of the program.

The final pilot is for micro-transit. Micro-transit is a technology enabled, on-demand transit service with flexible routing and scheduling of multi-passenger vehicles. Subject to the appropriation of funds by the legislature, the Department of Mobility and Innovation will conduct a pilot program for the award of up to three grants to private businesses for the provision of micro-transit within the ATL jurisdiction. The maximum award is limited to \$500,000.00 and a maximum of one grant per authority district. It is up to the department to develop an application and standards for awarding grants. Consideration of applications should include whether the applicant's proposal will connect two or more existing transit systems within the ATL, provide connectivity between an existing provider and an area within the ATL without transit, or provide access to economic activity centers such as employment sites or education or training facilities to low income or underserved residents.

The bill also provides for the extension of the sunset for the creation Cobb County Special District for Transit so that the county has until 2021 to submit a proposed map of the district and a proposed rapid transit contract, and hold a referendum for approval.

Authored By: Sen. Steve Gooch (51st)
House Transportation
Committee:
Floor Vote: Yeas: 147 Nays: 19

Rule Applied: Modified-Structured
Committee 03-21-2019 Do Pass
Action:
Amendments:

Local Calendar

SB 242 Town of Toombsboro, Georgia; new charter; provide

Bill Summary: Senate Bill 242 provides a new charter for the town of Toombsboro.

Authored By: Sen. David Lucas (26th)
House Intragovernmental Coordination -
Committee: Local
Floor Vote: Yeas: 153 Nays: 0

Rule Applied:
Committee 03-29-2019 Do Pass
Action:
Amendments:

SB 245 City of Buford; a certain map; adopt by reference

Bill Summary: Senate Bill 245 adopts by reference a certain map for the city of Buford.

Authored By: Sen. Renee Unterman (45th)
House Intragovernmental Coordination -
Committee: Local
Floor Vote: Yeas: 153 Nays: 0

Rule Applied:
Committee 04-02-2019 Do Pass
Action:
Amendments:

SB 247 Magistrate Court of Troup County; technology fee for conviction of traffic or ordinance violation; charge

Bill Summary: Senate Bill 247 authorizes the Troup County Magistrate Court to charge a technology fee for each conviction of a traffic or ordinance violation.

Authored By: Sen. Matt Brass (28th)
House Intragovernmental Coordination -
Committee: Local
Floor Vote: Yeas: 153 Nays: 0

Rule Applied:
Committee 03-29-2019 Do Pass
Action:
Amendments:

SB 250 State Court of Fulton County; appointment of associate judges and their compensation; provide

Bill Summary: Senate Bill 250 provides for the appointment and compensation of pro tempore judges, pro hac judges, and judicial officers to the Fulton County State Court.

Authored By: Sen. Jennifer Jordan (6th)
House Intragovernmental Coordination -
Committee: Local
Floor Vote: Yeas: 153 Nays: 0

Rule Applied:
Committee 03-29-2019 Do Pass
Action:
Amendments:

SB 252 Clerk of Superior Court of Twiggs County; authority to fix compensation of employees of Clerk's office; provide

Bill Summary: Senate Bill 252 changes the manner of fixing salary adjustments or allowances of the Twiggs County Superior Court clerk and employees of the superior court clerk's office.

Authored By: Sen. David Lucas (26th)
House Intragovernmental Coordination -
Committee: Local
Floor Vote: Yeas: 153 Nays: 0

Rule Applied:
Committee 03-29-2019 Do Pass
Action:
Amendments:

SB 253 Judge of Probate Court of Twiggs County; authority to fix court employee compensation; provide

Bill Summary: Senate Bill 253 changes the manner of fixing salary adjustments or allowances of the Twiggs County Probate Court judge and employees of the court.

Authored By:	Sen. David Lucas (26th)	Rule Applied:	
House	Intragovernmental Coordination -	Committee	03-29-2019 Do Pass
Committee:	Local	Action:	
Floor Vote:	Yeas: 153 Nays: 0	Amendments:	

SB 254 Tax Commissioner of Twiggs County; authority to fix compensation of tax commissioner's office employees; provide

Bill Summary: Senate Bill 254 changes the manner of fixing salary adjustments or allowances of the Twiggs County tax commissioner and the employees of the tax commissioner's office.

Authored By:	Sen. David Lucas (26th)	Rule Applied:	
House	Intragovernmental Coordination -	Committee	03-29-2019 Do Pass
Committee:	Local	Action:	
Floor Vote:	Yeas: 153 Nays: 0	Amendments:	

SB 255 Town of Danville; new charter; incorporation, boundaries, general powers and limitations, governing authority, duties, election, terms, method of filing vacancies, and compensation; provide

Bill Summary: Senate Bill 255 provides a new charter for the town of Danville.

Authored By:	Sen. David Lucas (26th)	Rule Applied:	
House	Intragovernmental Coordination -	Committee	03-29-2019 Do Pass
Committee:	Local	Action:	
Floor Vote:	Yeas: 153 Nays: 0	Amendments:	

SB 256 Stockbridge Public Facilities Authority; create

Bill Summary: Senate Bill 256 creates the Stockbridge Public Facilities Authority.

Authored By:	Sen. Emanuel Jones (10th)	Rule Applied:	
House	Intragovernmental Coordination -	Committee	04-02-2019 Do Pass
Committee:	Local	Action:	
Floor Vote:	Yeas: 153 Nays: 0	Amendments:	

SB 257 Sheriff of Twiggs County; manner of fixing salary adjustments or allowance; change

Bill Summary: Senate Bill 257 changes the manner of fixing salary adjustments or allowances of the Twiggs County sheriff and the employees of the sheriff's office.

Authored By:	Sen. David Lucas (26th)	Rule Applied:	
House	Intragovernmental Coordination -	Committee	03-29-2019 Do Pass
Committee:	Local	Action:	
Floor Vote:	Yeas: 153 Nays: 0	Amendments:	

SB 263 Probate Court of Troup County; technology fee and uses; charge and specify

Bill Summary: Senate Bill 263 authorizes the Troup County Probate Court to charge a technology fee on each filing of a civil action or proceeding.

Authored By:	Sen. Matt Brass (28th)	Rule Applied:	
House	Intragovernmental Coordination -	Committee	03-29-2019 Do Pass
Committee:	Local	Action:	
Floor Vote:	Yeas: 153 Nays: 0	Amendments:	

Next on the Floor from the Committee on Rules

SB 162 Local Government; disaster mitigation improvements and broadband services infrastructure; downtown development authorities; provide

Bill Summary: Senate Bill 162 states a local government may regulate the occupancy or rental of residences when the rental is for a fee and is for less than 30 consecutive days; however, the regulations shall not completely prohibit all such occupancies or rentals within the local government's jurisdiction.

Authored By: Sen. Matt Brass (28th)
House Energy, Utilities &
Committee: Telecommunications

Rule Applied: Modified-Structured
Committee 03-28-2019 Do Pass by Committee
Action: Substitute

Committee Actions

Bills passing committees are reported to the Clerk's Office and are placed on the General Calendar.

Intragovernmental Coordination - Local Committee

SB 245 City of Buford; a certain map; adopt by reference

Bill Summary: Senate Bill 245 adopts by reference a certain map for the city of Buford.

Authored By:	Sen. Renee Unterman (45th)		
House	Intragovernmental Coordination -	Committee	04-02-2019 Do Pass
Committee:	Local	Action:	

SB 256 Stockbridge Public Facilities Authority; create

Bill Summary: Senate Bill 256 creates the Stockbridge Public Facilities Authority.

Authored By:	Sen. Emanuel Jones (10th)		
House	Intragovernmental Coordination -	Committee	04-02-2019 Do Pass
Committee:	Local	Action:	